FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 APRIL 1984

Libya

Tripoli radio viewed the events at the Libyan People's Bureau in London as a "horrible terrorist action" by the British Government, claiming that British police "stormed" the Bureau and opened fire on its members, thereby forcing those inside to "defend themselves." A Foreign Liaison Bureau statement carried by JANA blamed British authorities for permitting "hostile elements" to demonstrate outside the Bureau, accused them of provocations and hostile actions against Libyans in the People's Bureau and elsewhere in Britain, and warned that British police are preparing to capture the Bureau, an act which will "not pass without reply" from the Libyan people. In a related commentary, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio denied that Libya was responsible for the "explosions which shook London" and said the "attack" on the People's Bureau was an "extremely bitter insult" which the Libyan people will avenge by exerting pressure on the "open wounds in the sick British body."

Lebanon

Lebanese-Syrian Summit — President Amin al-Jumayyil has accepted Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's invitation to visit Damascus for a summit meeting on 19 April, Beirut radio announced. Al-Asad's invitation came after Syrian officials reached agreement with Lebanese opposition representatives over the issues to be discussed, the radio noted. Earlier, in a cable to Al-Asad on the occasion of Syria's national day, Al-Jumayyil stressed the importance of continuing to strengthen bilateral relations, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

In other political developments, Radio Monte Carlo cited reports that Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt's recent talks in Damascus with Libyan Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud failed to reconcile the PSP leader and Libyan-backed Al-Murabitun leader Ibrahim Qulaylat. Meanwhile, the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio alleged that Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche visited East Beirut last week for talks with Phalangist political and military officials.

Military/Security Situation — Both Voice of the Mountain and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported intermittent clashes on the contact lines in and around Beirut on 17 April. Meanwhile, French and Lebanese observers replaced gunmen in vantage points on the Al-Murr and Rizq Tower buildings in Beirut, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Damascus radio reported that Israeli forces are making military preparations in the Al-Biqa' valley which "observers" view as a prelude to an attack on the Syrians.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Navy and Navy air units destroyed two large "naval targets" between Bushehr and Khark Island early on 18 April, a military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio.

PLO Affairs

PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir arrived in Algiers to head the Fatah delegation in talks with PFLP and DFLP representatives, Algiers radio reported. In Rabat Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas said Fatah is ready to discuss the "forthcoming formula" for the PLO Executive Committee with "all" except PFLP-General Command leader Ahmad Jibril and the Fatah dissidents, according to KUNA. The quadripartite alliance of the PFLP, DFLP, Palestinian Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party has submitted a "national salvation program" to Fatah calling for a broad front within the PLO aimed at maintaining the organization's unity and confronting "capitulatory" methods, the *JORDAN TIMES* revealed. PFLP spokesman Bassam Abu Sharif told the newspaper that the program is intended to prevent the PLO from endorsing schemes that contradict its nationalist goals. He also indicated that the PFLP and DFLP intend to strengthen their political position by escalating military operations against Israel.

Saudi Arabia

An official source, in a statement reported by SPA, accused the Western press of distorting the truth regarding the Saudi ambassador to Washington's recent banquet which was attended by the Soviet ambassador. There was "no directing or planning in the matter as imagined by some writers," the official stressed, and the Soviet ambassador has attended receptions given by the Saudi Embassy on previous occasions.

Afghanistan

Protest to Pakistan — The DRA Government, in a Foreign Ministry note to Pakistan reported by BAKHTAR, condemned Pakistan's alleged detention of 37 Afghan officials seized in an attack on a DRA customs post last December by "bandits and foreign mercenaries supported by Pakistani border units."

Panjshir Valley — Resistance leader Ahmad Shah Masud has captured about 50 secret police spies who had infiltrated his forces, AFP reported citing Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad.

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Fatah Central Committee Concludes Tunis Meetings

JN151731 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Text] In the presence of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], the Fatah Central Committee concluded a meeting in Tunis yesterday. The meeting evaluated the meeting that recently took place in Aden between a Fatah Central Committee delegation and the brother PDRY officials regarding the dialogue with the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP].

The Fatah Central Committee delegation was also formed to participate in a meeting scheduled to be held in Algiers on 18 April. Representatives of the PFLP, DFLP, Algeria, the PDRY, and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement will attend this meeting. The Fatah movement delegation will comprise Brothers Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid], and Hani al-Hasan, members of the Fatah Central Committee; Sakhr Abu Nizar, secretary of the Fatah Revolutionary Council; and 'Abbas Zaki, member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council.

The meeting also dealt with the visit a Fatah Central Committee delegation is scheduled to pay to Moscow at the end of April, and the agenda for talks with the Soviet officials.

The Fatah Central Committee also discussed the meetings of the Jerusalem Committee. A Palestinian delegation led by Brother Abu 'Ammar will attend these meetings to be held in Fes on 19 April to discuss the dangers and threats against the holy city.

WAFA Announcement on Algiers Meeting

JN150729 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Text] WAFA has announced that a tripartite meeting of Fatah, the PFLP, and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] representatives will be held in Algiers on 18 April. Several contacts were made recently, particularly in Algeria, to prepare for this tripartite meeting which some wanted to be a summit meeting between Yasir 'Arafat, George Habash, and Nayif Hawatimah. However, it seems that this meeting will be restricted to representatives of the three organizations.

WAFA said yesterday that the Fatah Central Committee met in Tunis under Yasir 'Arafat and entrusted Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad; Hani al-Hasan; Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid]; and Sakhr Abu Nizar to represent Fatah at the meeting.

A source for the joint command of the PFLP and DFLP announced in Damascus yesterday that the contacts made were not preparatory to a summit meeting between 'Arafat, Habash, and Hawatimah, but to a tripartite meeting of the three organizations' representatives.

Reportage on Al-Wazir Statements

AL-QABAS Interview

GF151946 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 14 Apr 84 p 21

[Excerpts] Amman — Mr Abu Jihad (Khalid Al-Wazir) announced in a statement made to *AL-QABAS* in Amman that the PNC will be convened no later than the start of next month in order to choose representatives to replace those who reject the invitation to a dialogue to unite the Palestinian stand under the PLO and within the Executive Committee and the PNC.

Mr Abu Jihad continued: "We have continued to pursue the policy of patience and dealing with these campaigns openmindedly, but we stressed during our meetings with the brothers in Aden that we will not remain patient for very long toward the policy of foiling Palestinian meetings and obstructing PNC activities. Many months have passed while we were trying to reach something, but we have always been confronted with the attempts of continuing postponement. We believe that this serves none but the plot aimed at destroying the PLO institution for the benefit of the new Palestinian organization.

Thus, we said the Yemeni brothers should convey to these parties our viewpoint—that we will not forbear any more because of the Central Committee meeting between 15 and 20 April in Tunis when we will define our final stand on convening the PNC and on the time and place of the meeting.

We wish these brothers to realize the necessity of quickly convening the PNC and surpassing the policy of dissolving the issue. If they have the readiness to meet to prepare for the PNC, we welcome the meeting any time and anywhere; in Aden or in Algeria. We must discuss convening the PNC as quickly as possible to maintain this institution and to not obstruct the PLO's legitimacy. If they hesitate and do not answer us and continue their policy of postponement, we will choose a number of necessary alternatives so that time is not wasted and delays do not continue.

One of these alternatives, for instance, is to quickly hold a wide popular conference to be attended by no less than 5,000 Palestinians to choose replacements for those who fail to attend the PNC meetings and fail to participate in the dialogue. This is not a threat, nor is it blackmail but the logic of the truth which states the PLO march should not be stopped by any obstacle. We have to date been waiting for their answer, but have received nothing so far.

Statement to AD-DUSTUR

JN141230 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 14 Apr 84 p 11

[Dispatch by Tawfiq 'Abid and Muhammad al-Majali]

[Text] Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has stated there have been intensified contacts with brothers in the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], the ALF,

and the Palestine Liberation Front in recent weeks. These contacts' main result was that Fatah had to present a working paper including outlines of political stands, collective leadership, and organizational procedures for future PNC meetings.

In a special statement to *AD-DUSTUR*, Al-Wazir said: After Fatah presented this working paper, we were surprised when it was published, with a number of objections, in a propaganda campaign charged with casting doubts and leveling false accusations. We did not respond to any of these campaigns. He noted in this respect the efforts the Algerians and Yemenis exerted to prepare circumstances suitable for these meetings so that the PLO's unity is reinforced and the safety of its march guaranteed. He said the YSP has invited a delegation from the Fatah Central Committee to hold talks with the four organizations on the general situation in the Palestinian arena and on the results of the quadripartite meeting recently held in Aden.

Abu Jihad said: Regarding the quadripartite meeting, the working paper presented to the Fatah leadership contains a number of topics which cast doubt on some issues and view them erroneously. One of these topics is that Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is no longer a common denominator [qasimaj mustarakan] — this is a rejected point. Another topic is the rejection of the last Jordanian-Palestinian statement as a base for Palestinian-Jordanian relations. Other points were also conveyed to us by the Yemeni brothers.

Abu Jihad expressed the belief that such stands are a result of foreign blackmail, because the Jordanian-Palestinian statement is clear and contains all of the basic principles of national Palestinian action in light of the resolutions from the last PNC session. We refused to follow the policy of exchanging memorandums to deal with the issue of Palestinian dialogue. Therefore, we demanded this method be stopped and an open invitation to hold a closed, emergency meeting of the Palestinian leaders be accepted in order to discuss all stands and issues and to reach common ground on which all will converge, as was the case before the PNC was convened.

Abu Jihad continued: Consequently, Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, YSP Political Bureau member and the Central Committee secretary, left for Damascus to meet with the four parties, especially the PFLP and the DFLP, to discuss a suitable time for a meeting.

Brother Abu Jihad said: As we are waiting to hear what the Yemeni envoy will convey on the suitable date and place for the meeting, we assert our continued concern for the need to hold a meeting of the active forces in the Palestinian arena to reach an agreement on the steps for the PNC meetings, and to end the policy aimed at weakening the legitimate Palestinian institutions and obstructing them from assuming their role and mission in these circumstances in which the Palestine cause is faced with dangers, threats, and interference.

We asked the deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces about the latest developments in Palestinian-Syrian relations. He said: There were no recent contacts with the Palestinian leadership. The Fatah leadership's stand is obvious. Despite the crime of Tripoli and the attack against the revolution, we reiterate that any new relationship must proceed from noninterference in the internal affairs of the Palestinian revolution, from rejecting the policy of hegemony and tutelage, and from maintaining the independent Palestinian decision-making. He added: It is regrettable to note that the Syrian course still reinforces the entrenchment of divisions, and — with Libya — continues the policy aimed at creating an alternative PLO. It also continues to practice the operations of chase and detention; it chases the fighters in the Lebanese arena, and deprives the families of thousands of fighters who live in Damascus of their allocations. This is a humanitarian case.

Brother Abu Jihad said that the Syrian authorities are still refusing to allow the transfer of allocations to the fighters' families. This is a point which an Algerian and a Yemeni envoy tried to discuss with the Syrian side to organize the transfer of allocations to the families which have not received them since November.

Instead of allowing this, the Syrian authorities confiscated $1.6 million and arrested 13 people on the charge of trying to transfer some funds which, after hard efforts, have recently been released. He stressed that the Syrians refuse to allow the PLO office in Damascus to distribute the funds, and that a Syrian security official is present there for this purpose.

Therefore, the matter depends on the Syrian stand and on the extent to which they stop attacking the revolution and its fighters, because we neither began the clash nor fabricated the battles, nor do we continue the conflict.

Asked about the Libyan stand, Brother Abu Jihad said: All are following up the Libyan actions and stands toward the Palestinian revolution, beginning with the formation of the revolutionary committees in the Libyan cities a few years ago as an alternative to the PLO's presence and ending with the financial and other support extended to all — aid that could help sabotage the Palestinian arena. In addition, there was the attempt to buy fighters and cadres in Al-Biqa' and the participation in the Syrian plan to strike at the revolution, whether in Al-Biqa' or Tripoli.

Following our departure from Tripoli, the Libyan leadership used all sorts of threats and blackmail against the Palestinian leadership presence in Tunis. It tried to create an alternative PLO through contacts with Aden, Algiers, and other Arab sides to encourage this formation, which was rejected by the loyal among our nation and people because it aimed at destroying the PLO, which was formed through the blood, struggle, and sacrifices of our people.

The Libyan leadership repeated its threats about the Palestinian presence in Tunis and is occasionally still making such threats, in addition to its continuous efforts to support the dissident movement and the trends hostile to the PLO's march.

Reports on transferring the Palestinian headquarters from Tunis are baseless and mere rumor. It has been repeatedly announced that Tunis will remain one location for the political leadership, which is continuing its meetings and work normally there, unaffected by threats. This is because the Tunisian- Palestinian

relationship is strong, solid, and based on frankness and full desire to develop this relationship in the service of Palestinian struggle and Arab cause.

Asked about the heroic Jerusalem operation, the deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces said: In the current circumstances our people are witnessing and after the departure from Beirut and Tripoli, a basic fact has been emphasized. It is the fact that the occupied territory is the main arena for our people's struggle against the Zionist occupation and that all militant efforts should be directed toward it to escalate and promote armed struggle and to exhaust the Zionist enemy's forces by inflicting more losses on their ranks as an extension of this continuous bleeding taking place in the occupied territory and southern Lebanon.

He said: Therefore, the efforts of our organizations and forces should be directed toward honorable competition in the field of making sacrifices and further offerings. The stronger armed struggle becomes in our occupied territory, the easier for all the minor differences in our Palestinian arena to disappear.

Therefore, during the next few weeks the occupied territories will witness more armed struggle operations against the occupation authorities which understand only the language of force. Force must be the base on which we stand with all our capabilities and resources.

The Palestinian revolution has never renounced the military option. It is wrong to say that the Palestinian revolution has stopped its armed struggle and has chosen to drown in political activities instead. This is a wrong statement; it is meant to cast doubt. It is also based on ignorance. Our struggle has never stopped. Those who follow the events and operations in the occupied territories realize the truth. Our people there are continuing their military operations as well as their political struggle, represented by strikes, demonstrations, sit-ins, and active confrontation of settlements and forced emigration.

Brother Abu Jihad demanded that the names of hundreds of those who have been detained over the past few months on charges of belonging to the resistance or of carrying out resistance operations be checked. He said that the Palestinian revolution has both military and political wings. Political moves do not mean renouncing the military struggle and its escalation. Our moves stem from our armed struggle, the sacrifices of our martyrs, and the heroic deeds of our fighters and prisoners in Israeli jails. These heroic deeds engender respect for our struggle and open the way for political achievements on all levels.

We asked Abu Jihad about Jordanian-Palestinian relations. He said: The new phase of these relations, particularly following the Tripoli events, has been characterized by a new spirit and a desire to strengthen the relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples in light of the PNC resolutions, which described these relations as distinctive, special relations. These relations have been strengthened through joint history, struggle, and sacrifices.

Our joint vision was that to strengthen these relations is an aim in itself which the two sides should support to strengthen it further and lay firm foundations for it. These relations constitute the background for joint action and vision and the basis for joint moves in all fields on the various Arab and international levels.

In the previous meetings, the basic foundation was laid down. We hope efforts will continue to complete the building of these fraternal relations. This will be dealt with during the joint moves of the coming phase. Within this context, a date has not as yet been fixed for Brother Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] visit to Amman.

Brother Abu Jihad said: We are concerned about continuing and developing Palestinian-Soviet relations. We have never expected the Soviet Union to take a stand different from the one it has. The Soviet Union's concern is that there should not be an intra-Arab dispute in the Arab region and that all efforts should be pooled against the Zionist enemy. Hence, circumstances prevented the Soviet efforts during the Tripoli battle from reaching tangible results because of Syria's intransigence and insistence on carrying out its scheme to strike at the PLO. In such a case, we do not expect much from the Soviet Union because the problem is an intra-Arab one. After Tripoli, there were many bilateral contacts. The Soviet Union explained its position as concerned about PLO unity with all its factions and within its legitimate framework. Abu Jihad said that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will pay a visit to Moscow during the next few days at the invitation of the Supreme Soviet.

Regarding the competition between U.S. presidential candidates to please the Jews, Brother Abu Jihad said the hysteria in the United States to please the Jewish voter, as evident from the statements these candidates are making in the interest of the Irsraeli entity, clearly reveal the United States' blatantly biased attitude. The Arabs feel deep pain when they see the United States succumbing to Israeli blackmail and ignoring the feelings of the Arab nation.

All this, he said, confirms the continuous U.S. policy of siding with the state of aggression and providing it with all means of protection thereby encouraging it to continue with its aggressive policy against the Arab nation.

Brother Abu Jihad described Jordan's stand, declared by His Majesty King Husayn, against the United States' blatantly biased policy as an expression of the Arab nation's bitter feelings toward this policy. He said that the Arab nation is closely following the question of the transfer of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. This question, he said, also shows that the United States is succumbing to Israeli blackmail and defying Arab and Islamic feelings.

Abu Jihad added U.S. policy toward the Middle East and Arab issues will only change when the U.S. Administration feels the existence of a serious Arab and Islamic stand that threatens its interests in the region. If such a stand is not taken, there will be no change in the policy of the White House, whether it is occupied by the Republicans or Democrats, he said .

Replying to a question about the announcement of general mobilization in the enemy state in the past few days, the deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces said: We

have become accustomed to these call-ups in the enemy's army, whether for the purpose of training or maneuvering. The enemy is preparing itself for aggression whenever the circumstances become suitable. Regardless of the methods used in declaring this mobilization, we should pay close attention inside the Zionist society to the rivalry and the preparation for the election campaign. This situation may encourage the Likud to embark on a military action to a score a victory to appease the Zionist society and win votes in the coming elections. There have been several such instances in the past. This calls on our nation to be particularly alert and vigilant and to follow closely what is going on inside the Zionist society, whether it is the Likud or the Alignment in power. The line of aggression is one and continuous.

Abu Jihad said: The Arabs must not discount the military option. They must be constantly ready to face the possibility of aggression. This question must remain vivid in the mind of the Arab nation. We must not dream of easy solutions.

Abu Jihad continued: Despite the signs of weakness and divisions in the current Arab situation, we must not neglect the military option. Otherwise, the enemy will swallow up more Arab territory. We need to strive with all available means to face the dangers and threats surrounding us by means of a unifed Arab stand, preparation, and mobilization regardless of the sharp inter-Arab differences. In order to safeguard our territories. and homeland, we must set aside our disputes and differences and close our ranks no matter how difficult this is these days.

Regarding Britain's role in the tragedy of the Palestinian people, Brother Abu Jihad said Britian should be the first to pledge support for Palestinian rights; after all, it is the one responsible for the tragedy and destitution of the Palestinian people. Abu Jihad recalled that the British Mandate placed Palestine in political, economic, and social circumstances which paved the way for the establishment of a Jewish national homeland on Palestinian territory. The British Mandate, he said, continued with the crime of preparing conditions for delivering the Palestinian homeland to the Zionists. This was followed by encourgaging immigration and arming and training of Zionist gangs.

Since that date, Abu Jihad said, the Palestine question remained the symbol of injustice, aggression, and peoples' struggle to regain their usurped rights. The question was characterized by the continuation of the tragedy which has not been solved as most peoples' issues have been.

Concluding his statement, Abu Jihad affirmed that peace in this region will not be achieved as long as the Palestinians have not achieved their full rights.

Algiers Arrival Statement

LD180242 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Mr Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], member of the Fatah Central Committee and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has announced that a tripartite meeting of Fatah, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the PFLP will be held from today [18 April] in Algiers. Mr Jihad, in a statement on his arrival yesterday in Algiers, said that the delegation, which he will lead, will participate in this tripartite meeting to prepare for the coming PNC session. This meeting will also allow for the arrangement of other, broader meetings all aimed at preparing for the 17th session of the PNC, which will remain the principal issue for all the current discussions.

The Palestinian official expressed his hope that the Algiers meeting will constitute a new starting point toward the strong unity of Palestinian ranks. At the same time, he called on all the Palestinian strugglers to shoulder their responsibilities in consolidating the national struggle by relying on the fraternal support of the Arab nation.

APS Interview

LD181129 Algiers APS in English 1017 GMT 18 Apr 84

[All parenthetical notations as received]

[Text] Algiers, 18-4-84 (APS) — A tripartite meeting is to be held today in Algiers between the Fatah Palestinian movement and the People's and Democratic Fronts for Palestine Liberation (PFPL and DFPL), Mr Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad) deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Armed Forces declared in a declaration to the national news agency (APS). Abu Jihad pointed out that the delegation he is chairing will participate to the tripartite meeting, which will aim at "paving the way to" the holding of the next sesession of the Palestinian National Council (CNP-Parliament). It will enable also to prepare "other more extended meetings" with always in view the CNP 17th session, which remains "the essential theme of consultations underway."

Abu Jihad also indicated that the date of the CNP session "has not been fixed yet."

On another turn, the Palestinian leader pointed out "the importance of this meeting," which "will contribute to the reinforcement to of the PLO unity" and to "consolidate the Palestinian ranks" particularly in the present conjuncture marked by a "recrudescence of Israeli threats."

"These Zionist threats are becoming particularly violent and have been accompanied by numerous exactions" since the last actions of the resistance in the occupied territories, Abu Jihad added.

He also expressed the wish that Algiers meeting constitutes a "starting point for a solid unification of the Palestinian ranks so as they assume their responsibilities" in "the reinforcement of the struggle" with "the brotherly support of the Arab nation."

Mr. Khalil al-Wazir arrived yesterday here at the head of an important delegation of the Fatah, notably including Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid], Fatah CC member, Nimr Habash, secretary of the Fatah revolutionary council, Abu Abbas, responsible of the Palestinian National Front, and Abu Zaim, deputy of the general staff. [Names as received]

Palestinian Source on Expected Visit to Moscow

GF161338 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 15 Apr 84 pp 1, 17

[By Sattar Jabbar]

[Text] A distinguished Palestinian source told *AL-WATAN* yesterday that a high-ranking Palestinian delegation consisting of Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, and other leaders will pay a visit to Moscow on the 24th of this month. The distinguished source said that the talks will deal with Palestinian-Soviet relations, differences inside the organization [PLO] and Fatah, and relations with Syria. The distinguished Palestinian source expressed optimism regarding the results of this visit.

He revealed to *AL-WATAN* that the Palestinian meeting currently being held in Algiers attended by two delegations from the PFLP represented by Salah Salah and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine represented by Salih Ra'fat, and a delegation from the Fatah Central Committee is discussing all the Palestinian differences to reach an initial solution. He said that if the meeting succeeds in reaching a working paper acceptable to all parties, an expanded meeting will be held in the presence of Abu Iyad, Nayif Hawatimah, and George Habash.

The Palestinian source told *AL-WATAN* that the importance of this meeting emerges from the fact that Algeria is acting for the first time as a mediator and on the highest levels. He added that the meeting is important because of the PDRY mediation and because it is blessed and accepted by Syria.

The source added that 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the YSP Political Bureau, who is making a shuttle tour of a number of the Arab capitals where there are Palestinian leaders, held a long meeting with Abu Iyad in Kuwait the day before yesterday and discussed with him the Palestinian situation and the results of the efforts exerted for bringing about a solution to the crisis inside Fatah and the organization and for correcting relations with Syria.

Fatah's Khalid al-Hasan Leaves Tunis for Riyadh

GF151038 Doha QNA in Arabic 0750 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Text] Tunis, 15 Apr (QNA) — Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan left Tunis for Riyadh last night on a short visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Tunis, Mr al-Hasan said that the visit is to continue talks which began earlier with the senior Saudi officials on the current Arab stance and the recent developments in the Palestinian arena.

He said that these talks intend to make a joint evaluation of the Arab stance from all sides to find a practical view on a joint move to clear the Arab atmosphere before convening the 13th summit conference in Riyadh, in addition to discussing a number of issues concerning relations between Saudi Arabia and the PLO.

Statement on PNC

LD161427 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1135 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Algiers 16 Apr (KUNA) — A Palestinian official stressed here today that this week understanding within the PLO will be restored to its normal situation and that the National Council will be convened in the next few weeks.

Mr Hani' al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and political adviser to the PLO chairman, said that what he calls the plot aimed at destroying Fatah has ended, "and we have begun to regain the reign of political and military initiative."

Mr al-Hasan was talking to KUNA following several meetings he held with Salah Salah and Salih Ra'fat, members of the Central Committees of the PFLP and Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, respectively, where they discussed the preliminary measures for the plenary meeting of the fedayeen organizations proposed to convene in the Algerian capital on 18 April.

KUNA has learned that Mr al-Hasan informed the conferees of the Fatah Central Committee's decisions, including its agreement to attend the proposed meeting and Fatah's proposal on the participation of the independent Central Committee members as well as the Arab liberation front in the forthcoming Algiers meetings.

The two officials of the PFLP and DFLP left for Damascus to convey the results of the talks to their respective leadership.

Salah Khalaf Comments on Fatah-Factions Meeting

GF161156 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 15 Apr 84 pp 1, 21

[Text] Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, has denied he will attend the joint meeting of the factions of the Palestinian revolution in Algiers on 18 April. He also denied that the leaders of the four factions — the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestinian Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party — will attend.

In a statement to *AR-RA'Y AL'AMM*, Abu Iyad said that at present it suffices that representatives of the political bureaus of the four organizations taking part in the meeting will attend. For the first time in the history of Palestinian meetings, representatives of both Algeria and the PDRY will participate. Abu Iyad asserted that Fatah has asked both Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, and Hani al-Hasan, 'Arafat's political adviser, to represent it in the meetings.

In his statement Salah Khalaf expressed the hope that a solution will be agreed upon during the Algiers meeting that will restore united Palestinian action on the political, military, and information level. Moreover, Abu Iyad said, an agreement between Fatah and the four Palestinian factions will hasten the convening of the 17th PNC session which has been postponed several times.

In his statement Abu Iyad revealed that Syria approves and blesses such meetings, which makes the forthcoming Algiers meeting likely to succeed more than other meetings.

Calls for Convening Arab Summit

JN171740 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, has called for holding an Arab summit to draw up a strategy for confronting the Zionist dangers, discuss the current issues, and reach urgent solutions to them. This came in a statement he made following his meeting with Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah.

In this statement, Abu Iyad said the current Palestinian developments and the Iraq-Iran war were the major topics that he discussed with the amir of Kuwait. Noting Egypt and the Arab world, he said: We must differentiate between Egypt now and Egypt of the past. He emphasized he will lead a Fatah Central Committee delegation on a visit to the USSR within the next few days in order to hold talks with Soviet officials on developments in the Palestinian arena in particular, and the current Arab situation in general.

AR-RAY'Y AL-AMM Quotes Palestinians on PNC

GF151548 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 14 Apr 84 pp 1, 21

[Political editor report]

[Excerpt] Reliable Palestinian sources have said the invitation to hold the PNC meeting before an agreement is reached between the Fatah Central Committee and the other five Palestinian factions and the Fatah opposition will deepen the split in the Palestinian ranks and lead to further division, particularly when Aden and Algiers prefer not to hold this meeting before a prior agreement is reached among Palestinian leaders.

The sources said PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has been advised by the PDRY leaders not to hold this meeting at present before an overall agreement is reached on the total Palestinian situation.

The sources noted that visits by George Habash [PFLP leader] and Nayif Hawatimah [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine leader] to Algiers have nothing to do with the dialogue between the Fatah leadership and the Palestinian organizations but focused on bilateral cooperation and on the fact that the organizations still adhere to the Aden declaration, considered the only means to end bilateral differences.

INA Interviews PLO's Jamal as-Surani 15 Apr

JN150826 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0605 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Text] Tunis, 15 Apr (INA) — PLO Executive Committee member Jamal as-Surani has called for exerting all efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. In an interview with the INA correspondent here today, As-Surani praised Iraq's response to all the efforts that have been exerted to end the war. He said: Iran continues to insist on prolonging the war which has no specific concept or content and launches threats which cannot be achieved.

As-Surani stressed that Israel and the United States are the only ones that benefit from the prolongation of the war. He added: As a result of Iraq's preoccupation with the war, Israel invaded Beirut and implemented its conspiracies which aim at creating sectarian states. As-Surani expressed deep regret that all the mediations to end the war have had no tangible results, stressing that Iran has turned a deaf ear to all the mediation committees while Iraq has welcomed them.

On future relations among the PLO, Jordan, and Egypt As-Surani stressed that the PLO believes in the necessity and inevitability of Egypt's return to its normal leading role in the Arab nation to contribute to the battle for the land and the individual. He said that Egypt's absence from the Arab arena has been unnecessarily prolonged. Therefore, all the Arabs are duty bound to assist Egypt in eliminating the political, economic, and military restrictions imposed on it by the Camp David accords. He denounced the U.S.-backed Israeli scheme being implemented in the Arab East, which aims at dividing the area into sectarian entities while exploiting Egypt's absence, the deteriorating Arab situation, and Iraq's preoccupation with the unjust war being waged against it. As-Surani added: From this premise, to preserve the Arab nation's unity and territorial integrity, and to restore balance in the region, Egypt's return to the Arab fold and the end of the Iraqi-Iranian war have become a necessity. He said that the PLO can do much to help in bringing Egypt back to Arab ranks and to its natural position.

Regarding what has been achieved on the future of the Palestinian-Jordanian relations, Jamal as-Surani said: Satisfactory results were achieved with Jordan and there are common denominators for a joint strategic understanding through which the goal, the friend, and the foe have been defined. He added that talks continue along this course. As-Surani stressed that meetings between Jordanian and PLO officials will continue in the future within the framework of the committees formed for the adoption of procedural measures to define the joint action in the sphere of bolstering the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the occupied territories and liberating the usurped land.

Commenting on the recent commando operations in occupied Palestine, Jamal as-Surani said Palestinian armed struggle inside the occupied territories will not stop and the Palestinian and Lebanese people are currently waging a war of attrition against the Israeli forces everywhere. He expressed regret over the schemes implemented removing the Palestinian fighter from the real arena of struggle and called for an escalation of the armed operations against the Zionist forces.

As-Surani said that the recent fedayeen operations confirm that the Zionist invasion of Lebanon has failed, that the PLO continues to exist and has not been wiped out, and that armed struggle will continue to be the natural option of the PLO in addition to the political struggle.

As-Surani announced that Palestinian armed struggle in the occupied territories will be escalated in the coming days and the

world will be informed about it in spite of the international Zionist blackout which aims to obscure the Palestinian fedayeen operations.

On the efforts currently being exerted to seek common ground among the Palestinian organizations before proceeding to the PNC, Jamal as-Surani said Palestinian unity is the unity of the Palestinian people who expressed this unity when they rallyed around the PLO and Yasir 'Arafat's leadership. He said the PNC will convene at the end of this month or early next month whether the Palestinian organizations come to an agreement or not. He added that the nonattendance by some at the PNC meetings will neither affect the issue of its convocation nor the Palestinian people's unity, and those who do not attend will isolate themselves from the Palestinian people.

Jamal as-Surani stressed that the PLO rejects any understanding with the Syrian regime at the expense of the PLO's unity or the independent Palestinian decisionmaking. He reiterated the PLO's rejection of any attempt at hegemony, control, or containment.

Jamal as-Surani said that no specific date has been set for Yasir 'Arafat's intended visit to Moscow, adding that 'Arafat will choose the right time for this visit.

Libyan Attempt To Intercede in Iran-Iraq War Depicted

LD180902 Kuwaiti KUNA in Arabic 0818 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait 18 Apr (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti *AL-WATAN* today said that Libya tried to intercede with Iran to convince it to stop the war with Iraq but it failed. The paper was quoting an Arab minister, who it did not name, as saying that the Libyan attempt was in the form of a secret visit by member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud to Tehran a few days ago. The paper added that during the visit Jallud met with the Iranian religious leader Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni and tried to convince him of the necessity of stopping the war, but Imam Khomeyni refused to talk about stopping the war with Iraq because he is of the view that Iran cannot stop the war as long as its conditions have not been met. The Kuwaiti paper added that Jallud left Iran immediately and returned to Benghazi.

USSR Mediation Between Cairo, Damascus Reported

GF170851 Doha QNA in Arabic 0835 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Apr (QNA) — Press reports indicated here today that Moscow currently seeks to normalize relations between Egypt and Syria. The Kuwaiti newspaper *AS-SIYASAH* has noted that the talks which a Soviet official is currently holding in Egypt have to do with this subject.

The Soviet official, Vladimir Polyakov, director of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, met with Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs. A statement was issued after the meeting in which the two sides expressed interest in ameliorating bilateral relations.

The observers link this development with a former statement made by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in which he referred to the possibility of an exchange of ambassadors between Cairo and Moscow.

QNA: PFLP, DFLP Submit Memo to UN Official

GF151352 Doha QNA in Arabic 1935 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 14 Apr (QNA) — The joint leadership of the PFLP and Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine today sent a memorandum to the UN secretary general in which it warned against the serious aggressive designs Israel is planning against Arab nationalist and Palestinian forces.

The memorandum referred to the complaint Israel submitted tonight to the UN Security Council and said it is only one of the steps to launch an aggression against Syria, the PLO and the Arab liberation movement. The memorandum detailed the bad health of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in the enemy's prisons and the deterioration in the health of a great number of these prisoners and detainees. The memorandum said for this reason, the PFLP and the DFLP, after Israel breached the prisoner exchange agreement reached in December 1983, decided to carry out a humane political operation by securing the release of those whose health is bad. That is why a group of DFLP fighters carried out the land operation in the occupied city of Jerusalem on 2 April. This is also why a group of PFLP commandos detained the bus carrying a number of Israeli conscripts and led it to the Egyptian border, but the Israeli authorities refused the demands and launched an attack at the order of the Israeli defense minister which led to the (?killing and wounding of a number of passengers). [passage indistinct]

PPSF on Palestinian Writers Federation

JN141509 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1340 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 14 Apr (SANA) — Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front (PPSF), has stressed the PPSF's readiness to extend every possible support for the General Secretariat of the General Federation of Palestinian Writers and Journalists to confront the illegal actions aimed at weakening the federation and paralyzing its effectiveness.

During his reception yesterday of the General Federation of Palestinian Writers and Journalists delegation under Yahya Yakhlif, secretary general of the federation, Dr Ghawshah reiterated the PPSF's support for the General Secretariat's efforts to preserve the federation's unity and to adhere to its legitimate bodies, and the need to confront the suspect attempts of corrupted rightists to control the Palestinian popular organizations.

Yakhlif reviewed the situation of the federation and the current attempts to undermine its unity and to increase differences within its ranks in an illegal and illegitimate manner.

WAFA Condemns Change in U.S. Foreign Aid Bill

GF150654 Doha QNA in Arabic 2025 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] Tunis, 14 Apr (QNA) — The PLO has denounced the amendment made by the U.S. Congress to the draft 1985 U.S. foreign aid bill which prevents holding negotiations with the PLO unless it recognizes Israel's right to exist and refrains from using its military power. The organization described—through the WAFA political editor—this step as very serious in the way the United States deals with the Palestinian issue in particular and with the Middle East issue in general.

The editor denounced the United States for continuing to ignore the steadfast Palestinian people, despite all the liquidation wars being waged by the Israeli enemy with unlimited U.S. support. The editor said it is a sad state of affairs when the U.S. Congress demands the PLO refrain from using its military power in confronting Israel, which basically was established with the use of power from the arsenals of the United States and NATO; it is also a sad state of affairs when it demands the occupied people to recognize the occupiers so that these people and their legitimate representative can negotiate with the United States.

At the conclusion of his commentary, the editor affirmed that these U.S. fallacies will increase the Palestinian people's insistence on resuming military strikes on the Zionist enemy in Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip, as happened this week, and in every place where the Israeli forces exist in the Arab land.

Palestinian Broadcast on Jordanian Repressive Measures

JN151246 (Clandestine) Palestinian Voice of National Unity in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] Brother listeners; The campaign of arrests against citizens in Jordan by organs of the agent regime supporting the treasonous 'Arafat line is escalating.

These arrests come at a time when public discontent is assuming an overt form.

On 9 March, and following the strike staged by prisoners in Al-Mahattah prison in Amman, the mothers and wives of the detainees staged a sit-in inside the PLO office in the wing of Abu Munir, alias Najib al-Ahmad, the so-called director of Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] office in Amman. The aforementioned person ran away from the women, shut himself inside the office, and called the Jordanian security organs and the women's police. The protesters were dispersed after the arrest of four sister strugglers.

Reports from Amman say the Jordanian repressive organs recently escalated their measures against nationalists in Jordan. A number of nationalists have been arrested and harsh forms of harassment, tension and terror imposed on the masses. This comes as part of the pressure campaign being conducted by the king's regime to force the citizens, the symbols of national struggle, the PNC members, and the establishments of the PLO to endorse the steps taken by King Husayn and 'Arafat toward liquidating the Palestinian cause.

The Jordanian regime is currently forcing the nationalists to adhere to 'Arafat's steps to make sure a maximum number of nationalists will need 'Arafat's call for the PNC session he intends to convene.

The agent regime is expected to escalate its oppressive measures in the next few months in harmony with the speed required by 'Arafat.

The strike declared by the strugglers detained in Al-Mahattah central prison continues. The steadfast strugglers inside the prison have escalated their confrontation of the policies and measures of the Jordanian regime and its allies. Five days ago they declared a hunger strike to prove their adherence to the nationalist principles, their abidance by their political stand and basic demands, and to participate in resisting the Jordanian-'Arafatist treasonous steps by being firm in their position rejecting humiliation and bargaining. We hail the strugglers loyal to the homeland who are standing fast in the face of the executioners of the agent reactionaries on the way to toppling the agents and liberating Jordan from U.S. control. It is a revolution until victory.

Palestinian Group Kills Three Israelis in Gaza

JN141512 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 14 Apr (SANA) — A group of the Popular Liberation War Vanguards operating in Gaza attacked with hand grenades an Israeli enemy patrol in the city on 31 March. The military source said that this operation killed and wounded several soldiers in the patrol. The Israeli enemy admitted three Israeli soldiers were killed during that operation. The group returned safely to base.

Voice of PLO on Escalating Armed Struggle

JN131930 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1607 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Brothers: Less than 12 hours after the statements of Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in which he said the occupied territories will witness more armed operations of struggle against the Zionist occupation which only understands the language of force; and that all efforts of struggle must be directed to the occupied homeland to combat the Zionist enemy there —namely, the main arena of struggle —our hero revolutionaries inside the occupied homeland carried out one of the most daring armed operations against a Zionist military bus on the Ashqelon- Tel Aviv road —deep inside the occupied territory.

Regardless of the size of the losses inflicted on the occupation forces as a result of this heroic operation —and these losses were great —the operation took place to prove the credibility of the revolution's trends and successive decisions to escalate armed struggle against the Zionist occupation inside the occupied homeland. These trends and decisions were, from the beginning, inherent in the decisions of the PNC during its recent session held

in Algiers. They were also emphasized by the Fatah Central Committee statements issued in Tunis earlier this year, within the framework of formulating the current program of nationalist Palestinian action, particularly after the Tripoli events.

Afterwards, these decisions and trends were re-emphasized and noted through the strategic method of the Palestinian struggle —a method of escalating armed struggle against Zionist occupation in the main arena of conflict inside the occupied homeland to consume the occupation's potential and to direct painful blows at it to achieve the revolution's great nationalist objectives.

Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and Brother Abu Jihad continued this emphasis, the last instance of which was yesterday in Al-Wazir's statement, noted earlier. In this statement, Al-Wazir openly explained that the occupied territories will witness more armed operations of struggle against occupation.

Our hero revolutionaries, who carried out yesterday's heroic operation that lasted until this morning, affirmed the credibility of the revolution's decisions and strategic trend to escalate armed struggle against the Zionist occupation. This affirms the developing military potentials of our revolution in reaching its targets throughout the occupied homeland. This development takes place at a time when our revolution's operations are escalating on all fronts of struggle using all the various methods. This integrated development does not only refute the claims of the enemy's camp and those who plot against our revolution and cause concerning the weakening of the PLO's role on the various levels, but also emphasizes the reality of the difficult Palestinian number in the equation of the historical conflict and the PLO's strength on the various levels.

It also proves that any attempt to overtake the PLO will be in vain. Thus, a second fact is re-emphasized here; namely, there will neither be peace nor stability in the region by disregarding our people's inalienable rights —foremost of which are the right to return, self-determination, and establishing the independent Palestinian state under the PLO's victorious banner.

Those who always reinforce this fact are our hero revolutionaries through their continuing and developing armed operations of struggle —these operations which the revolution's command says will continuously escalate under the slogan: Revolution until victory.

Commentary on Military Escalation

JN132015 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1541 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Brothers: It has become evident the Zionist leadership has intentionally imposed a blackout on the big commando operation which took place yesterday in the heart of occupied Palestine. The Zionist authorities prohibited journalists and correspondents from approaching the area, and strictly censored the correspondents' dispatches on this heroic operation.

Without a doubt, the Zionist blackout over our revolutionaries' operations has become a usual occurrence which should not surprise anybody, particularly since the Zionists are trying to show the PLO and its struggle has weakened after leaving Lebanon.

The facts represented by this operation have bypassed the Zionist blackout. These can be presented as follows:

First, the trend of the Palestinian revolution to escalate combat operations inside the occupied territories, which has been defined by Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], and the leaders of the Palestinian revolution for a long time, is beginning to bear fruit inside the occupied territories in the shape of grand operations which we have seldom witnessed in the past months.

Second, the Zionist losses due to these operations in the heart of the occupied homeland, in addition to those that equal these or surpass them in Lebanese territory inflicted by Palestinian and Lebanese revolutionaries side by side, confirm the Zionist enemy is sinking deeply in its unending dilemma in the face of the heroic resistance and its resilient determination to fight the enemy wherever it may be.

Third, the Israeli military communiques on yesterday's heroic operation confirm the Israeli losses in this particular operation are very high. The announcement of eight serious injuries was stylistically a well known announcement; it was made so the same Zionist military spokesman could later on announce the Zionist losses in detail. The blackout on military losses in this operation confirms that a sizable number of occupation officers and men have been killed and that the events on the battleground are very different from what was announced by the Zionist military spokesman.

In any event, this operation stresses that the PLO with all its forces and groups is directing itself in a studied manner toward its main arena, the arena of the occupied homeland. When the revolution directs itself toward its main arena with such momentum, the Zionist enemy and those backing it must expect more revolutionary activity to affect all fields. The PLO has not lost for one day its correct vision toward its struggle arena, or the ability for effective action; not when the Zionists invaded Lebanon, and what followed the invasion regarding the difficult conditions which the PLO, its membership, and the Palestinian people went through; nor when the dissident putschist conspiracy was carried out.

The PLO, adhered to by the four million Palestinians, is always able to find arenas for its actions, and to prove its existence in the arena of military action first, and then political action and on all fields.

Statement on Israeli Threats

JN151759 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 15 Apr 84

[Text] An information spokesman for the Palestinian revolution has stressed that the Israeli threats will not prevent our people

and their revolution from heroically pursuing by all means their resistance against the occupation. The spokesman added that the threats the enemy's leaders are using will only increase the Fatah movement's determination to pursue its armed struggle against the occupier enemy. The spokesman warned this arrogant enemy against carrying out any terrorist actions whose only objective would be to absorb the Zionist settlers' fear in the wake of the recent heroic operations the Palestinian fighters carried out inside the occupied territory and southern Lebanon.

The spokesman said that the enemy leaders are responsible for these operations because they did not respond to the conditions set by those who carried out these heroic operations.

Reports South Lebanon Operation

JN131652 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] While the operations of our revolutionaries against the Zionist occupation forces escalate in the occupied homeland, Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese resistance men continue escalating their heroic operations against the Zionist invasion forces which occupy southern Lebanon.

The resistance men attacked an Israeli military patrol near the town of An-Nabatiyah in occupied southern Lebanon with automatic weapons and hand grenades. The attack resulted in killing or injuring a number of the Zionist patrol's personnel.

The Israeli military spokesman admitted this daring operation and claimed two Israeli soldiers were injured. The spokesman said that Israeli forces immediately cordoned off the area of the attack and arrested a number of citizens on the pretext of interrogating them.

The group which carried out the attack had already withdrawn safely to its base.

Jerusalem Operation Commander Eulogized

NC141858 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] A eulogy ceremony was held at the Nahr al-Barid Camp [in north Lebanon] marking the passage of 1 week since the martyrdom of the commander of the Jerusalem operation. The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, represented by Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh [PLO Executive Committee member], conferred the Jerusalem medal on First Lieutenant Abu Rabi', father of the operation commander, in appreciation for his courage and heroism.

In a speech he delivered on the occasion, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh described the Jerusalem operation as a response to any attempt at (?deviating) from the Palestinian revolution and against all capitulationist schemes.

BAHRAIN

Amir Calls for Pooling of Arab Efforts, Resources

GF180854 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0545 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Apr (WAKH) — The amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, has called on the Arab countries to unite their efforts and resources before asking the other countries of the world to define their stands on the Arab questions.

This came in a statement Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah made to the weekly Kuwaiti magazine *AL-YAQAZAH* which was published in its 18 April edition. Asked about his talks with the British officials during his official visit to Britain, he said that these talks dealt with the Palestinian question and the Iraqi-Iranian war [words indistinct] this region and a war whose victims are the children of two Muslim neighboring countries, and a destructive war that must be ended through earnest international efforts.

About Britain's stand on Arab issues, Shaykh 'Isa said: "Before requesting that Britain or anybody else change its position, we should change ourselves. We should unite in talk, action, and stance on any issue that is facing our nation. Our stance should be as if of one. When we become a united Arab power in talk and action, we then have the right to request that other countries in the world define their stands. Anyway, the talks which took place were met with noticeable understanding."

Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah said that he stressed to the British officials the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination within a secure national sovereignty. He added: "Naturally, you are aware of the details of the Arab questions, particularly of the Palestinian question. During the official visit which I made to Britain, I considered myself [words indistinct] toward all the discussed questions. The Palestinian question did also receive considerable attention in the talks, particularly since it constitutes the core of the problem in the Middle East region. I did say during my talks with the British side that the just solution to this question lies in establishing the internationally acceptable principles for all the region's peoples, especially recognizing the rights of the Palestinian people to live in peace and to exercise their right of self-determination within a secure national sovereignty."

Asked about Gulf cooperation, Shaykh 'Isa said: It is natural that we in the GCC countries exchange opinions and consultation all the time, because we all are the sons of one region and one nation. The results of my discussions with the British officials will be conveyed to my brother rulers of the region, because we all discuss and exchange consultation regarding matters that are related to the supreme Gulf and Arab interests.

Interior, Industry Ministers Return From London

GF171942 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Manama, 17 Apr (WAKH) — Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, Bahraini interior minister, returned to Manama from London this evening after he accompanied Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah on his official visit to the United Kingdom 10-13 April. Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirawi, Bahraini minister of development and industry and acting minister of state for cabinet affairs, returned to Manama earlier today after accompanying the amir in his visit to the United Kingdom.

OMAN

Austrian Foreign Minister Meets With Officials

Deputy Minister Receives Lanc

GF171450 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Fahar ibn Taymur Al Bu Sa'id, deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs, received this morning at his office at the Bayt al-Falaj Camp Austrian Foreign Minister Erwin Lanc and his accompanying delegation. During the 30-minute meeting, friendly talks were held and issues of mutual interest were discussed. At the conclusion of the meeting the deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs presented a souvenir to the guest.

'Abdallah, Lanc Begin Talks

GF170511 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The Omani-Austrian official talks led by Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah, state minister for foreign affairs, and Erwin Lanc, Austrian foreign minister, began in Al-Gabrah resthouse today. In a statement to the radio correspondent after the talks, Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah said that the bilateral relations in the economic and trade fields were discussed and that the Austrian side expressed its country's readiness to extend more financial aid to the Sultanate development projects. He added that there was a comprehensive review of the political situation and the exacerbating problems of the Iraq-Iran war, the situation in the Middle East, the Palestinian issue, the Afghanistan issue, South African problems, and other issues of mutual concern. The problems of the East and West were also discussed. His excellency said that an agreement between the two countries was reached on the continuation of consultations to find better means to solve these problems.

SAUDI ARABIA

'Distortion' in Envoy's Remarks, Diplomatic Dinner

LD172011 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1755 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Apr (SPA) — In explaining and correcting what has been reported by news dispatches and published by some papers regarding the presence of the Soviet ambassador in Washington at a banquet given by his majesty's ambassador to the United States a few days ago, an official source stated to SPA this evening that in describing this incident, the press went a long way away from the truth and every paper gave it the coloring it wanted and found satisfying.

Although the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia enjoys complete freedom in its political relations and international diplomatic contacts, and is ruled by nothing except what it considers congruent with its policies which stem from its Islamic creed, the whole matter is no more than that the Saudi Embassy in Washington gave a diplomatic banquet to which it invited most Arab and international diplomatic corps figures, including the ambassador of the Soviet Union. There was no directing or planning in the matter as imagined by some writers, and there have been many occasions when the Soviet ambassador has been present at reception parties given by the U.S. Government and Saudi Embassy for prominent Saudi officials during their visits to Washington.

The sources added: As to what has been said regarding a link between the statement of his majesty's ambassador in Washington, His Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, and the banquet that followed it, it has been established that a clear distortion has taken place in the text of the statement given by his highness to the Washington Press Club by parties which have a purpose in this well known to all. The source said at the end of his statement that it has therefore been necessary to issue these remarks out of concern to explain the facts and expose misunderstandings.

Minister Departs for Jerusalem Committee Meeting

LD181036 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1010 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 18 Apr (SPA) — Tomorrow morning the foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, will leave leading the Kingdom's delegation to Fes to participate in the meeting of the Jerusalem Committee, which is holding its ninth meeting tomorrow evening under the chairmanship of King Hassan of Morocco. During its meeting on Thursday and Friday the committee will discuss the means for confronting the Zionist plans aimed at judaizing the Holy City and changing its religious and historic landmarks.

The Saudi delegation includes Isma'il ash-Shura, head of the Arab Department at the Foreign Ministry; Ambassador Hasan ash- Shawwaf, director general of his royal highness's office; a number ministry officials.

Commentary on Committee Meeting

LD180602 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Commentary by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] The Jerusalem Committee is scheduled to begin its meetings in Fes on Friday, under the chairmanship of Moroccan King Hassan II, to discuss developments in the plans of the Israeli enemy to Judaize the holy city.

The meetings of the Jerusalem Committee this time will assume great significance in view of the circumstances that led to these meetings and the extremely serious changes that have occurred concerning the attempts of the Israeli enemy to complete its actions to Judaize the holy city, actions that reached a climax in the enemy's declaration of Jerusalem, with both its eastern and western parts, as its capital on 30 July 1980. The declaration was followed by a meeting of the Security Council at the request of the Islamic states. The Council issued a resolution witholding recognition of the city of Jerusalem as capital of the Israeli entity. The resolution appealed to member states not to move their embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, pointing out that the status of the holy city [word indistinct] cannot be altered without the participation of those who are involved in the fate of this city, and that the Israeli enemy has no right to decide on this matter.

The governments of the international community remained committed to this decision, including the U.S. Government, but it appears that the Jewish lobby in the United States in these circumstances in particular and in the shadow of the preparations for the presidential elections began to apply pressure to make the U.S. Administration move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The U.S. Administration felt, however, that such a step would produce repercussions in the Islamic world which would have serious consequences for U.S. relations with Islamic countries. This prompted U.S. President Reagan to voice clear criticism of such an action. Some U.S. officials also announced that even if the U.S. Congress approved the transfer of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, the U.S. President had the constitutional right to refuse to implement this. This has produced a kind of retreat on the part of the ones who have called for the transfer of the embassy. But this does not mean that the matter has become a closed subject, as it has become a card in the hands of the Jewish (?lobby). For this reason, the meeting of the Jerusalem Committee assumes a special importance on the basis of implementing what is required of the Islamic world to confront the Israeli challenge. Judaizing Jerusalem and removing it from the Islamic body will not be the final battle of the Israeli enemy.

Somali Foreign Minister Arrives in Jidda

LD171319 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1135 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Jidda, 17 Apr (SPA) — Somali Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre this afternoon arrived in Jidda on a visit to the Kingdom of several days. During the visit he will have talks with officials regarding the consolidation of all aspects of cooperation between the two countries in all fields. He was welcomed on arrival by the head of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry and the Somali Ambassador to the Kingdom Abdullah Hajj Abdurahman.

SAMA Portrays Continued High Economic Growth

LD171422 Riyadh SPA in English 1210 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Riyadh, April 17, SPA — Saudi Arabia is able to sustain a comfortably high rate of economic growth in the non-oil sector as real non-oil GDP recorded a rise of 7.2 per cent despite decline in oil revenues and slowdown in government spending during fiscal year 1402/03 H (1982-83), a latest annual report published by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) said here today.

The report for the year 1403 H (1983) was presented to HM King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in Riyadh yesterday by SAMA's acting

Governor Hamad Al-Sayari during an audience with the Saudi monarch which was also attended by Crown Prince 'Abdullah, the first deputy premier and commander of the National Guard and Finance and National Economy Minister Mohammad Aba al-Khayl.

During the current fiscal year (1403-04), the economy seems to be doing reasonably well, though the rate of growth may be somewhat lower than in 1402-03, the report said. It added that incentives and encouragement provided by the government combined with the momentum of the private sector and the repatriation of funds from abroad have played a crucial role.

"However, the Saudi economy will continue to experience normal rates of growth in the near future due to the government's determination to continue its positive role in the development and diversification of the economy through the well-planned use of resources at its disposal and motivating the private sector further to make productive investments," it said.

The Kingdom's oil revenues have declined from 70.5 billion U.S. dollars in 1982 to 37.1 billion dollars in 1983.

"Quarterly figures indicate that revenues totalled 11 billion dollars in the first quarter of the year. These declined to 6.6 billion dollars in the second quarter owing to the downward adjustment in crude oil prices as from March 15. With the increase in production, revenues rose to eight billion dollars in the third quarter. In the fourth quarter of the year, revenues rose further to 11.5 billion dollars," the report said.

On the other hand, for the year 1983 as a whole, the Kingdom's oil production is estimated to have averaged nearly five million barrels per day (bpd), representing a fall of 23 percent over the preceding year, it added.

The average daily production of the Kingdom declined from 10.2 million barrels in the first half of 1981 to 9.5 million barrels in the second half. In 1982, the rate of decline increased, with production averaging 7.2 million bpd in the first half of the year and 5.8 million bpd in the second half. For the year 1982 as a whole, production averaged 6.5 million bpd, which was 3.3 bpd less than in the preceding year.

In the early months of 1983, the average level of production was down sharply, reaching less than 3.50 million bpd immediately before the OPEC London meeting in March. For the first quarter of the year, it averaged 4.1 million bpd. In the second quarter, the average was a little higher, at 4.6 million bpd. In the third quarter the level of production was stepped up to about 5.8 million bpd to ensure adequate availability of associated gas for the Kingdom's master gas system. In the fourth quarter of the year, production averaged somewhat lower at 5.5 million bdp due to the closure of two offshore fields (Marjan and Zaluf) for about a month from the middle of December, for tying in their associated gas into the new Safaniyah gas gathering complex which will feed associated gas from the master gas system.

Referring to the balance of payments position, the report said the Kingdom's export earnings declined by 42.9 percent in 1402-03 H while imports increased by 9.3 percent, but this was accompanied by a fall of 14.3 percent in service payments.

There was an overall deficit of SR 19 billion in the current account compared with a surplus of SR 94 billion in 1401/1402 H. "In view of the repatriation of funds from abroad by the private sector, there is an increase of SR 8.9 billion in SAMA's foreign assets," the report said.

Referring to the transport and communications sector, the report said a total of 2,248 kms of asphalt roads and 5,617 kms of agricultural roads were constructed during 1402/03. This raised the aggregate length of asphalt and agricultural roads in the Kingdom to 64,299 kms, which is nearly four times the level of 16,924 kms at the start of the first plan.

The total number of telephone lines reached 807,318 in 1403 and covered 285 towns and villages. The number of telex lines reached 16,044. The number of post offices rose to 586 by the end of 1402/03 H.

The number of piers operating at the Kingdom's five main seaports rose to 121 by the end of 1403 H while total number of vessels stood at 9,036 during the same period.

The non-oil cargo handled by the ports, however, rose by 11 per cent to 73.4 million freight tons.

On the other hand, the number of airports operating in the Kingdom reached 24 in 1402/03 H including the three international airports at Jidda, Riyadh, and Dhahran.

In the field of agriculture and industry, the report said the agricultural sector made a big headway during the third plan due to assistance and facilities provided by the government.

The agricultural sector showed a real growth rate of 10 per cent during 1402/03 H as compared to six per cent rise in the preceding two years. Of particular significance was the rise in wheat production to 692,000 tons in 1402/03 H. There has also been a steep rise in the production of vegetables and fruits, and of eggs, poultry, milk and livestock during the three years of the third plan.

The number of industrial licences issued by the end of 1402 H was 2,689 with a total authorised capital of SR 112.3 billion. Of these, 1,511 industries had already been established, 514 were under implementation and 664 were expected to be established in the near future.

The cumulative total of loans disbursed by the Saudi Industrial Development Fund had risen to SR 7.5 billion by the end of 1402/03, the report said.

Four of Sabic projects have already gone on stream while work is progressing on schedule on its other six projects. Sabic has already floated its shares worth SR two billion for public subscription in line with the government's programme to transfer its ownership of most of its projects ultimately to the private sector, the report said.

The master gas plant became operational with a capacity to process 1.5 billion standard cubic feet of associated gas daily. The Yanbu and Ju'aymah fractionation plants are producing ethane, propane, butane and natural gasoline to meet local requirements and for export.

The Mahd al-Dahab mine was inaugurated in April 1983 and will produce gold, silver, copper and zinc.

Referring to the education and health sectors, the report said more than 900 schools, institutions and colleges were opened during the academic year 1402/03, raising the number of educational institutions in the Kingdom to 10,060. The total number of students enrolled at various levels of education increased by 7.6 per cent to 1.8 million.

On the other hand, the health sector registered further expansion and improvement. The number of hospital beds increased by 9.7 per cent to 14,333 and the medical staff rose by 10.5 per cent to 20,777.

In the field of labour, housing, and urban development, the report said labour laws and regulations had been streamlined to ensure industrial safety and to harmonise relations between employees and employers.

The Ministry of Public Works and Housing has so far constructed 25,202 housing units under its rush and general housing programmes. The real estate development fund has disbursed SR 8,318 million during 1402/1403 H.

Besides helping the construction of housing, the government has given due attention to urban and rural development and expansion of utilities, including in particular, electricity, water, telephones, public transport, sewage disposal and cleaning.

In addition to these achievements, the commercial banks became further strengthened and consolidated. Their capital and reserves rose by 28.7 per cent to SR 8.5 billion while their total assets increased by 17.3 per cent to SR 138.1 billion.

The specialised credit institutions continued to play their constructive role in the development of the economy and the expansion of housing in the country. Credit disbursed by them was SR 26.5 billion in 1402/03, 10.2 per cent more than the previous year, thus raising their cumulative amount of their loans to SR 151 billion.

Repayments have continously increased and amounted to SR 4.3 billion, the report said.

Embassy Move to Jerusalem Against U.S. Interests

PM171339 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 12 Apr 84 p 3

[Editorial: "In Order To Prevent the Transfer of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem"]

[Excerpts] Certainly the attitude of President Reagan and his administration, which is opposed to the Zionist plan to transfer the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, is a sound attitude deserving appreciation and consideration by the Arab and Islamic countries. His Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, his majesty's ambassador in Washington, expressed this appreciation when he was a guest of the Washington Press Club 3 days ago.

However, this sound attitude by President Reagan and his administration needs Arab and Islamic backing so that the authors of the plan among the Zionist lobby in Congress hear the loud Arab and Islamic voice regarding the grave consequences that this plan will have not only for the Arab-Israeli conflict at present and in the future but also for Arab-Islamic relations with the United States.

As an Arab-Islamic initiative to strengthen and support the stand of President Reagan and his administration in opposing the plan to relocate the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem, we believe that the idea of setting up a delegation consisting of the Committee for the Liberation of Jerusalem, headed by the Moroccan monarch, to visit Washington in order to explain the Arab-Islamic viewpoint on this matter is a sound and practical idea.

However, we would like to add to the idea by suggesting that the delegation also address Congress and not only President Reagan and members of his administration. Congressmen who are not fanatically biased in favor of Israel and who are not enthusiastic about the proposed transfer of the embassy urgently need to strengthen their arguments with the arguments put forward by the Arabs and Muslims in order to show the great dangers involved in relocating the U.S. Embassy in occupied Jerusalem and the threat that such a step would pose to the U.S. role in the Middle East and wide U.S. interests in the Arab and Islamic countries.

It must be made clear that the transfer of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem is not in the least in the interest of the United States itself and of Arab-Islamic relations with the United States. It must also be made clear that if this transfer takes place, it would be tantamount to hammering the last nail into the coffin of Arab-Islamic confidence in the United States.

If we as Arabs and Muslims try to use the weapon of the vital interests of the West and the East in our countries, then the West and the East will realize that Israel does not represent any political, economic, or military interest for them and that their bias would only cause great harm to their vital interests and ancient relations with the Arab and Islamic countries.

UAE

Officials Meet With YAR Foreign Minister al-Asbahi

GF171106 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of his highness the president's court, today met with Ahmad Muhammad al-Asbahi, YAR foreign affairs minister, who is currently visiting the country.

Ahmad ibn Hamid, information and culture minister, today received Ahmad Muhammad al-Asbahi, YAR foreign affairs minister. The meeting was attended by Muhammad Hasan al-Khawi, the YAR ambassador to the UAE. Following the audience Ahmad al-Asbahi noted that during the meeting they discussed all aspects of of media and culture cooperation, not only on the level of bilateral relations but for the sincere service of the Arab citizen.

PDRY

Chairman Al-Hasani Receives Visiting Dignitaries

Meets AAPSO Secretary General

GF171702 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office today Comrade Nuri 'Abd ar-Razzaq, AAPSO secretary general. During the audience, Comrade Nuri briefed the secretary general on the current preparations to hold the AAPSO meeting in Algiers next month and the most important issues it will discuss. They also discussed a number of issues aimed at enhancing the organization's role in struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and racism and the relations linking the organization with the Yemeni Council for Peace and Solidarity in the framework of their common goals. The brother chairman praised the organization's role in enhancing the Afro-Asian solidarity and its stand on the struggle of the peoples in the two continents and issues and developments the world is witnessing as a result of the threats being posed to the peoples' freedom and progress.

On his part, Comrade Nuri 'Abd ar-Razzaq expressed his satisfaction over his meeting with the brother chairman and his visit to the PDRY which will enable him to hold talks with officials in the Yemeni council for peace and solidarity on the organization's forthcoming meeting.

Receives Cuban Ambassador

GF171454 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office today the Cuban ambassador in Aden. During the audience, they reviewed relations between the two friendly countries and a number of issues of mutual interest, particularly the recent developments in the Carribean resulting from U.S. imperialism's aggressive plots against the Nicaraguan people and other peoples. The brother chairman expressed our country's solidarity with the Cuban and Nicaraguan people against the imperialist conspiracies which are aimed at undermining their freedom and independence, affirming that Cuba and Nicaragua, supported by all peace- and freedom-loving forces and peoples in the world, are able to preserve their sovereignty and achieve victory against their enemies. The audience was attended by YSP Central Committee member and Foreign Minister Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali.

Receives New Jordanian Envoy

GF171452 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received at the Secretariat of the Supreme People's Council Presidium today the credentials of Zuhayr 'Abd al-Latif, Jordanian non-resident ambassador to the PDRY. The ambassador conveyed to him a message from his Brother King Husayn of Jordan dealing with the current Arab situation, Middle East developments, and continued U.S. aid to the Zionist enemy to enable it to carry out aggressive and settlement plots in the region and the threats of the U.S.-Zionist strategic alliance.

YAR President's Adviser Departs With Message

GF171544 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Brother Colonel Husayn ad-Daf'i, adviser to the president for unity affairs in the northern part of the homeland and member of the standing committee, left Aden this afternoon after he conveyed a message to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, from his Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland. In a statement to ANA, Brother ad-Daf'i said he is carrying a reply message from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to his Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. He described his meetings with officials in the southern part of the homeland as lucrative and positive, dealing with issues which concern the two parts of the homeland. The meetings also dealt with fixing the time for the meeting of the joint ministerial committee on 1 June.

Party Official Leaves for Algerian Meetings

GF171456 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, left Aden for Algeria this morning. He will take part with Algerian brothers in the meetings which will be held by delegations from the joint PFLP and DFLP leadership and the Fatah Central Committee. In a statement to ANA, Brother 'Abd al-Qadir said: Our participation in these meetings are within the framework of the efforts our country is making to help contain the existing differences among the Palestinian resistance factions and to try to resolve them in a way to preserve Palestinian national unity within the PLO, the legitimate and sole representative of the Arab Palestinian people.

Installations Minister Leaves for Kuwait, Iraq

GF171446 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of installations, left Aden today leading a delegation to Kuwait and Iraq. ANA reports that during his visit to Kuwait, Brother al-'Attas will hold talks with brothers of the Kuwaiti fund for economic and social development on relations of cooperation between the two fraternal countries. He will also take part in the 11th session of the Economic Commission for West Asia which will be held in Baghdad 22-26 April.

YAR

President Salih Receives PDRY Chairman's Message

GF171906 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received today Brother Husayn ad-Daf'i, member of the Standing Committee and advisor to the president for unity affairs, after his return from the southern part. During the meeting he conveyed to the brother president a reply message from his Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland. He also submitted a report on the results of his meetings with brother officials there, particularly concerning the activities of the joint unity committees and the forthcoming meeting of the ministerial committee which is scheduled to convene on 1 June.

Foreign Minister Returns From UAE Meetings

GF180607 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, foreign minister and Standing Committee secretary, returned to San'a' yesterday evening after participating together with his accompanying delegation in the meetings of third session of the joint YAR-UAE coordination council which convened in Abu Dhabi from 14 to 17 April.

Salvadoran Embassy Transfer Criticized

'Ali Summons Ambassador

NC171335 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1258 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister today summoned Leonel Arguello, the Salvadoran ambassador, and conveyed to him Egypt's stance on the transfer of El Salvador's Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali stressed that the Embassy transfer is an unfriendly act that tends to determine a final status for Jerusalem, even though it is one of the major differences between Egypt and Israel, and despite the fact that it remains a negotiating point.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali told the Salvadoran ambassador that his country's action violates UN resolutions and international agreements because Jerusalem is part of the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967.

'Ali Urges Protest

NC171733 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1705 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said he sent urgent instructions to the Egyptian ambassador to El Salvador regarding El Salvador's decision to transfer its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

'Ali added that he asked the ambassador to express to the Salvadoran Government Egypt's extreme indignation at the decision, which contravenes the UN Charter and resolutions and determines a final status for Jerusalem at a time when the question of Jerusalem is still a point for negotiations in all future discussions.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt asked the Salvadoran Government to reconsider its decision, which will have serious repercusssions on relations between El Salvador and the Arab and Islamic states. 'Ali pointed out that El Salvador does not have any embassies in the Arab world other than in Egypt and that Egypt's stance represents the Egyptian, Arab, and Islamic views.

AL-AKHBAR Denounces Move

NC180557 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2235 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) — *AL-AKHBAR* denounces the El Salvador Government's decision to move its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and says the decision has come at an odd time. The paper adds that the strangeness of this decision increases when one realizes that a fierce controversy erupted in the United States — Israel's strong ally — the very moment the tune of the transfer of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem was reiterated. The controversy arose over the great harm such a transfer would do to U.S. interests — which are numerous — with the Islamic people in the world.

The paper adds in tomorrow's edition that the second reason why the timing seems odd is that the decision violates all the charters and resolutions of the United Nations and the international organizations which do not recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital because they realize how provocative such a decision would be to (?millions) of Muslims in the world.

The paper says the third reason for the strange timing of this sudden decision is that the El Salvador Government must realize that this topic is one of the more important causes of the bad relations between Egypt and Israel, and that the decision had been made without any consideration of the results.

AL-AKHBAR calls on the Arab and Islamic countries to take the necessary measures aimed at enlightening the El Salvador Government of the seriousness of this decision, and at preventing other countries from taking similar action, and also to take a unified stand on this matter.

The paper points out that the U.S. Government must call on Israel to reconsider [word indistinct] the transfer of embassies to Jerusalem if it really wants to live in peace and stability among its neighbors in the Middle East.

Muyhi ad-Din Congratulates USSR's Tikhonov

NC171446 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1428 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din today sent the following cable to Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

On the occasion of your appointment as chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, I am pleased to send you the best of wishes. I hope relations between our two countries will be strengthened in the interest of the prosperity of the Egyptian and Soviet peoples and on the basis of mutual respect.

Foreign Ministry Official, USSR's Polyakov Meet

NC171745 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) — Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, assistant foreign minister, today met with Vladimir Polyakov, director of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department, who is currently visiting Cairo.

During the 2-hour meeting, which was also attended by Minister Plenipotentiary 'Umar Badr, charge d'affaires of the Egyptian Embassy in Moscow, the two sides resumed discussion of all aspects of the Middle East situation. The Soviet official explained his country's views in this regard. They also discussed bilateral relations in various fields.

Ghali Interviewed on Gulf War, Sudan Conflict

NC171605 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, 17 Apr (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, stressed Egypt's support for any Arab or non-Arab conference supporting Iraq. He says Egypt blesses the

resolutions taken by the Arab foreign ministers' conference recently held in Baghdad.

In an interview to be published tomorrow by the Paris-based Arabic-language weekly *KUL AL-'ARAB*, Dr Ghali says that, by supporting Iraq in its war with Iran, Egypt is committed to diplomatic and political support for Iraq and to providing Iraq with the weapons it requires.

In the interview, Dr Ghali deals with Egypt's stand on recent events in Sudan. He says Egypt believes in the need for a dialogue on the differences between Sudan's north and south. He adds that Egypt is confident of Sudan's ability to reach a peaceful settlement to these internal differences through dialogue. He said this dialogue will result in a settlement that satisfies everyone, restores peace, and directs efforts toward development and tackling economic and social problems, which require the efforts of all Sudanese. He emphasizes that, at the same time, Egypt hopes that foreign countries will refrain from interfering in these internal Sudanese differences.

In the interview, Dr Ghali denies that there is competition between Egypt and Israel in Africa. He stresses that Israel cannot compete with Egypt in Africa because Egypt is basically an African country. It has been a center for all African liberation movements and all national liberation victories in Africa. Egypt has also contributed with all sorts of assistance to these movements, which gave Egypt a special position in all the African countries. Ghali asserts that there is no scope for comparison between Egypt and Israel in Africa.

The Egyptian minister of state also denies that there are excessive Egyptian moves in Africa, particularly during the recent period. He says Egyptian moves in Africa have been going on for 7 years. The Egyptian Fund for African Cooperation, which extends economic, technical and cultural assistance to African countries, has been operating for 4 years. He adds that what is new in Egyptian moves is President Husni Mubarak's visits to African countries.

'Ali Discusses Efforts To End Gulf War

NC171800 Cairo MENA in English 1755 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, April 17 (MENA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said today that Egypt is not mediating between Iraq and Iran, but is trying to stop the Gulf war through the Non-Aligned Movement.

He added that Egypt, as a member of the non-aligned group, is presenting to the group its proposals on the way to stop the war.

He reiterated that Egypt is undertaking no mediation between Iraq and Iran, but is suggesting what the non-aligned group might do to halt the war.

MENA has learned that Egypt's proposals deal with the way to stop the war and the way to start negotiations between Iraq and Iran.

Ghurbal Hails Increase in U.S. Aid to Egypt

NC180948 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Apr (MENA) — In an interview with the Egyptian magazine *AKHIR SA'AH*, published today, Dr Ahsraf Ghurbal, Egypt's permanent envoy to the United Nations, hailed congressional approval for a $65 million increase in economic aid to Egypt. Ghurbal said the increase constitutes remarkable success for Egypt's diplomacy and the manner in which U.S. Congressmen and officials were approached.

Ghurbal pointed out that this year the U.S. Administration asked Congress to allocate $1.175 billion in military grants to Egypt, $750 million in economic grants, and $225 million in long-term loans at low interest.

Dr Ghurbal saluted the overwhelming majority of senators who support the aid. The senators have backed Egypt in view of its dedication to peace and to its commitments.

Dr Ghurbal underlined that President Mubarak's call for a U.S.-PLO dialogue stems from the fact that the United States is not at war with the PLO — a matter which helps it convince the PLO to take the necessary steps along the appropriate road to peace. Dr Ghurbal also stressed that Reagan's peace plan will serve peace in the Middle East and will benefit the disputing parties: Israel, Syria, and the Palestinians. This plan will also help solve the Lebanese crisis.

Dr Ghurbal praised the U.S. President's decision not to transfer the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, saying the decision is an excellent and principled one.

Finally, Dr Ghurbal said: We welcome the resumption of talks between Jordan's King Husayn and the PLO. He called on the Palestinian brothers to take advantage of this opportunity so that the dialogue can bear fruit.

Joint Venture Agreement Signed With GDR

NC171330 Cairo MENA in English 1222 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, April 17 (MENA) — East Germany agreed today to enter into joint ventures with Egypt particularly in the manufacture of agricultural machinery.

Dr Wajih Shindi, minister of investment and international cooperation, conferred with an East German delegation on the execution of the technical and economic cooperation agreement signed by the two countries in Berlin last month.

East Germany will also help set up industrial training institutes in Egypt.

The GDR delegation is leaving Cairo later today at the end of a 5-day visit.

'Ali Meets With Head of Lebanese Mission

NC171403 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today met with Ambassador 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sulh, head of the Lebanese Interests Mission in Cairo.

After the meeting As-Sulh stated that they reviewed the latest developments in the security and political situation in Lebanon. As-Sulh said sincere efforts are being made to reach national conciliation and to form a national unity government to put an end to the Lebanese tragedy.

'Ali Receives Message From Turkish Counterpart

NC171627 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Turkish Ambassador in Cairo Genduk Olgacay, who handed him a message from Vahit Halefoglu, Turkish foreign minister .

The letter concerns the importance of bolstering relations between Egypt and Turkey in various fields.

During the meeting, a review was made of the current Middle East situation, the Iraq-Iran war, and the need to end this war. 'Ali expressed Egypt's desire to bolster its relations with Turkey in various fields. The Turkish ambassador expressed his country's interest in bolstering relations with Egypt in various fields also.

Envoy Departs on South Asian Tour 17 Apr

NC171501 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) — Ambassador ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, assistant foreign minister, left Cairo this afternoon, beginning of a tour to India, Malaysia, and Indonesia. He will convey written messages from President Husni Mubarak to the leaders of these countries.

Ambassador ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid stated before his departure that he will begin his tour by visiting New Delhi for 5 days, where he will convey a message to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. He added that he will then leave for Kuala Lumpur to convey a message to Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir. He will end his tour by visiting Indonesia, where he will deliver President Mubarak's message to Indonesian President Suharto.

Briefs

PRC Project Aid — Egypt and the People's Republic of China signed here today an agreement on the Cairo International Center for Conferences to be set up at Nasr City, East Cairo. Under the agreement, the Chinese Government would offer a soft long-term loan of 50 million dollars for the project which would be established on an area of 256,674 square meters. [Text][Cairo MENA in English 1600 GMT 17 Apr 84 NC]

Two Naval Targets Destroyed in Gulf 18 April

JN180646 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0628 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] A spokesman of the Armed Forces General Command has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At dawn today, our brave naval forces discovered two large naval targets in the area between Bushehr port and Khark Island. Our daring naval units and Navy air units attacked them, dealing them strong, effective blows. One of them was destroyed at 0400 today between Khark Island and Bushehr port. The other was destroyed off Bushehr port. Our attacking forces saw with the naked eye the flames rising from these targets. All our naval units and naval aircraft returned to base after successfully carrying out their mission.

Thus, our naval forces are completely controlling the prohibited zone of military operations. They affirm their decisive superiority and ability to strike and destroy any naval target that may try to enter this zone by ignoring our warning. God will grant us determination, victory, and success.

[Dated] 18 April 1984.

President Says Iran, Israel Preparing Aggression

JN171438 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Apr (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has stated that Iran and Israel are launching a campaign against Iraq in preparation for striking at some important sectors of the Iraqi economy.

President Saddam Husayn added that the Iranian and Israeli organs are disseminating a campaign of allegations that the ships transporting ordinary goods through Aqaba port contain chemicals to pave the way for a new aggression.

The president pointed out that Israel is very well aware of Iraq's pan-Arab weight, which is substantiated by the successive victories its Armed Forces have been scoring against the Iranian aggression for the past 4 years. That's why it seeks to commit an aggression against us while we are preoccupied with the war.

This came in a speech President Saddam Husayn delivered to a group of Iraqi officers here today.

President Saddam Husayn called on the Iraqi Army officers and soldiers to devote their attention to military culture. [thaqafah] He said: [Military] Culture is a necessary state through which we hope to bring the Army up to the aspired level. This is part of the process of fighting, as it will enable the members of the Army to fight in a better and more accurate manner, and will enable the commanders to lead their soldiers in a more mature manner.

President Saddam Husayn said that the war can be won only after the components that are necessary to form a fighter are made available, the foremost of which are military culture and military equipment and weapons.

President Saddam Husayn said that military culture is one of the necessary conditions for forming commanders in all sectors of the Iraqi Army. He also said that the Iraqi Army must not have any commander who has neither serious nor general military culture. He warned that the absence of such a culture in commanders would waste national dignity, which is connected with the defense of Iraq.

President Saddam Husayn stressed the need for officers to view military culture as part of their military and national honor, and for them to insist on educating themselves in order to safeguard this honor by adding a new element to their knowledge, that of general knowledge.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,438 - 17 April

JN171552 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Apr (INA) — An Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique stated today that an Iraqi forward unit shelled enemy targets in the eastern Maysan sector of operations today, scoring direct and effective hits. The communique also said that two Iranian soldiers were killed east of Basra.

The communique added that the Iranian regime's artillery shelled Mandali and its suburbs today, damaging one house. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,438 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces continued their daring activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the aggressor Iranian enemy. The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units used all types of weapons to pound an enemy troop concentration opposite its positions east of Basra, killing two and wounding others.

2. One of our forward units shelled several enemy targets opposite its positions in the eastern Maysan sector of operations, scoring direct and effective hits.

3. The treacherous ruling clique in Iran today shelled Mandali and its suburbs, damaging one house.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 April 1984.

Protocol on Economic Exchange Signed With SFRY

LD171423 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1300 GMT 17 Apr 84

["Pool" item]

[Text] Baghdad, April 17 (TANJUG) — Yugoslavia and Iraq have agreed on conditions for the future export of Yugoslav goods and capital equipment to Iraq and the participation of Yugoslav enterprises in new projects in Iraq. The frameworks of this cooperation were set out in a protocol on economic cooperation for this year which was signed here today, Tuesday, by the

cochairmen of the joint commission for economic and technical cooperation — Yugoslav Vice Premier Zvone Dragan and Iraqi Minister of Trade Hasan 'Ali.

The protocol defined conditions under which interested Yugoslav enterprises will partly credit the export of their goods, capital equipment and construction work in Iraq.

In determining the frameworks, the two delegations took into account the economic difficulties facing both countries — Iraq's expenditures for the long-running war and Yugoslavia's measures for economizing and rational spending envisaged by the economic stabilization programme.

Despite the war, Iraq was last year Yugoslavia's foremost economic partner among the developing countries. Two-way trade in 1983 was worth around 820 million dollars and 160 Yugoslav enterprises with around 16,000 workers areengaged on various projects in Iraq.

The value of bilateral trade this year is planned to exceed last year's figure by around 60 million dollars while the agreement on conditions for further operations opens up possibilities for Yugoslav enterprises to work on new projects in Iraq which will be negotiated directly by the interested parties.

Zvone Dragan was received by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, to whom he conveyed a message from the Yugoslav presidency relating to bilateral cooperation and Yugoslavia's endeavors on the international level to find a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Iran war.

Husayn Receives Message From Egypt's Mubarak

NC161217 Cairo MENA in English 1130 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Amman, April 16 (MENA) — King Husayn of Jordan received today a verbal message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak related to the current conditions.

The Jordanian monarch received the message during his meeting with Mansur Hasan, former Egyptian minister of information currently visiting here.

Amman radio said the meeting also dealt with the developments in the region and the Jordanian viewpoint vis a vis the common Arab action during the coming months.

The meeting, which took place last night, was attended by Ihab Wabah, head of the Egyptian interests section in Amman.

King Husayn Attends Soviet Folk Dance Performance

JN180815 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 18 Apr 84 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] Amman — PETRA — Last night their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur attended the performance given by the Soviet Laskiy folk dance group at the palace of Culture in Al-Husayn Youth City in celebration of the Jordanian-USSR friendship week.

Walid al-Khayyat, member of the administrative committee of the Jordanian-USSR Friendship Society, delivered a speech at the beginning of the performance. He welcomed their majesties and thanked them for patronizing this performance. He said that his majesty's attendance expresses his desire to promote the ties of friendship between Jordan and the USSR.

He added that the various aspects of cooperation between the two friendly countries constitute an important factor in bilateral relations, especially during these circumstances through which our Arab nation is passing in the face of the hostile and expansionist policy of the Israeli rulers. He pointed out that friendship weeks organized both in Jordan and the USSR represent a qualititative move on the road to promoting and entrenching this friendship in the interest of our countries and peoples.

Makhmut Kurbanov, minister of light industry in the Uzbek SSR, delivered a reply speech in which he expressed his appreciation and that of his delegation for the warm reception accorded to them. He also stressed the strength of the friendship between Jordan and the USSR. He said that His Majesty King Husayn and President Chernenko are contributing toward promoting this friendship. He added: The distinguished relations between our two countries can be described as firm and developing. He said that on 25 May each year, the Uzbek SSR celebrates Jordan's independence day.

Iurbanov stressed the USSR's firm stand toward the Arab issues — a stand that is represented by supporting the legitimate rights of the Arab people including the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, and calling for the withdrawal of Israel from all the Arab territories it has been occupying since 1967.

USSR's Kurbanov Speech

JN180715 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Amman — Makhmut Kurbanov, minister of light industry in the Uzbek SSR, has stressed the strength of the friendship between Jordan and the USSR. He said that existing relations between the two countries, which His Majesty King Husayn and Soviet President Chernenko are promoting, can be described as firm. He said that on 25 May each year the Uzbek SSR celebrates Jordan's independence day.

In a speech he delivered at the performance by the Lazkiy Soviet folk dance group in Amman yesterday, the Soviet minister stressed the USSR's firm stand toward the Arab issues — a stand that it is represented by supporting the Arab people including the Palestinian people's right to their land, and calling for Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories.

Kurbanov Statement to AD-DUSTUR

JN181039 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 18 Apr 84 p 24

[Khulud al-Ja'uni dispatch]

[Text] Amman — In a statement to *AD-DUSTUR* upon his arrival in Amman, Makhmut Kurbanov, minister of light industry in the Uzbek SSR, member of the Central Committee of the Uzbek SSR Communist Party, and member of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet, said this is his first visit to Jordan, and that the objective of this visit is to give a strong push to Jordanian-USSR friendship.

Kurbanov, head of the delegation of the USSR-Jordanian Friendship Society, who arrived in Amman to participate in the week of Jordanian-USSR friendship added: We highly appreciate and encourage the promotion of Jordanian-USSR friendship relations. He said: The promotion of friendly relations between our two countries takes place on a firm basis of mutual confidence. He said: In this regard, His Majesty King Husayn and President of the Soviet State Chernenko are directly contributing toward promoting these relations.

Kurbanov added: The Jordanian-USSR Friendship Society in the USSR and the USSR-Jordanian Friendship Society in Jordan are contributing, through their members and activities, toward the promotion of these relations and for strengthening the mutual understanding between our two countries. He said this friendship plays an important role especially at this particular time regarding the tense situation in the Middle East.

He said that the USSR supports the Arab world's just struggle for safeguarding its independence and achieving the progress of its peoples. He added: We denounce the imperialist aggression against the Palestinian Arab people, and support a just solution to the Palestinian question and the Palestinian people's right to live in peace in their independent state.

He pointed out: The most important reason for coming to Jordan is to promote the intimate relations between our two countries. He said: Our Soviet peoples desire to be free from

the threats of war, and wish that peace, which is based on understanding and brotherhood, will prevail in the whole world.

At the end of his statement, Kurbanov said: Our country supports Jordan for its solid stands toward supporting the peoples' right to self-determination. He added: During our 7-day visit to Jordan, we will try to acquaint the Jordanian people with our country, Uzbekistan, and the various aspects of economic and cultural life in Uzbekistan. He also greeted the friendly Jordanian people and the Jordanian-USSR Friendship Society.

Al-Masri Leaves for Jerusaelm Committee Meeting

JN171530 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Amman, 17 Apr (PETRA) — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri left Amman today for Fes to head the Jordanian delegation to the Jerusalem Committee meeting, which is scheduled to be held there on 19 April. He said the meeting would discuss the grave developments in Jerusalem's status under the Israeli occupation. He also touched on the issue of moving some countries' embassies in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and Zionist groups' current pressure on the U.S. Congress to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Al-Masri said that the meeting would discuss Arab and Islamic measures to counter that issue. He also pointed out that during the committee meetings Jordan would present a working paper with Jordan's views on the appropriate measures that can be taken in this regard.

Importance of Jerusalem Committee Meeting Stressed

JN180923 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Under the headline "A Test for Arab and Muslim Credibility", *AR-RA'Y* says: The Jerusalem Committee is scheduled to begin its meetings in Fes tomorrow to discuss the circumstances facing the holy city and the pressures being exerted by Israel on many countries to make them transfer their embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The transfer of the Sal-vadoran Embassy to the holy city which took place a few days ago has put the Arab and Islamic countries to the test. This is a U.S. test balloon, in light of which the transfer of other countries' embassies, including the U.S. Embassy, will be decided. This means that if the Arab and Islamic reply is limited only to protest and denunciation, it will not prevent the transfer of more ebassies to Jerusalem. Therefore, the Jerusalem Committee is called on to take other measures toward any country that embarks on such a challenge, including the severing of political, diplomatic, and economic relations with such a country. Otherwise, protest cries that are not backed by positive action will be blown away by the wind and will have no effect.

AR-RA'Y concludes: The issue of Jerusalem should unite the Arabs and Muslims and make them rise above any differences. They must all remember that both friend and foe will closely follow the Jerusalem Committee meeting that will begin tomorrow and the results of this meeting, because these results are the test for Arab and the Muslim credibility toward the Jerusalem issue, which is the essence of the Palestine question.

Algerian Minister Departs Amman After 4-Day Visit

LD171107 Algiers APS in English 1012 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Amman, 17-4-84 (APS) — Mrs. Z'Hor Ounissi, Central Committee member, minister of social protection, left Amman yesterday at the end of a four day visit to Jordan.

During her stay in Amman, Mrs. Z'Hor Ounissi transmitted a message of President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic, F.L.N. Party secretary general, to King Husayn of Jordan bearing on the strengthening of bilateral relations and the situation in the Arab region.

The Algerian minister met with several Jordanian officials with whom she examined the situation prevailing on the Arab and Palestinian scenes as well as bilateral cooperation.

Summit With Syria To Be Held 19 April

NC172026 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that during a telephone conversation this evening, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and President Amin al-Jumayyil set the date for the Lebanese-Syrian summit between Presidents Al-Jumayyil and Hafiz al-Asad for Thursday [19 April].

Al-Asad Extends Invitation

JN172104 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2050 GMT 17 Apr 84

[George Bashir dispatch from Beirut; from the "Panorama" program]

[Text] I learned a short while ago that the date of the Lebanese-Syrian summit between Presidents Amin al-Jumayyil and Hafiz al-Asad has been set for the day after tomorrow, Thursday [19 April] in Damascus. A few moments ago Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam contacted President Amin al-Jumayyil by phone and reviewed with him the situation in Lebanon and the situation on the regional and international level. He extended to the Lebanese president an official invitation from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to visit Damascus the day after tomorrow, Thursday. Thus, one can say that political and security detente in Lebanon will be entrenched during this summit that will convene 48 hours from now. One can also say that a new Lebanese Government will be formed this week.

Road to Agreement Opened

NC180456 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Informed political quarters believe that yesterday the road was opened toward achieving understanding and agreement on ending the battles and on forming a government of national unity. This is because of a development reached between the Syrian side and opposition representatives regarding the issues which are supposed to be discussed at the Lebanese-Syrian summit. It has been officially decided to hold this summit tomorrow, Thursday.

One of the optimistic signs is what former Minister Marwan Hamadah said after his return from Damascus to the effect that the opposition, in consultation with Syrian officials, has prepared an appropriate draft agreement constituting a good basis for achieving an understanding among the various Lebanese sides. Hamadah has briefed Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri on this development.

In a telephone contact last night between President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the date of the Syrian-Lebanese summit between Presidents Al-Jumayyil and Al-Asad was fixed. Upon the Syrian president's invitation to President Al-Jumayyil, it has been decided that the summit will take place in Damascus tomorrow, Thursday.

Further on Opposition Delegation's Talks in Syria

Birri Briefed on Results

NC171218 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Amal Movement Leader Nabih Birri met today with former Ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt, who returned from Syria yesterday. Birri was briefed on the results of the consultations and meetings held in Damascus. Lawyer Haytham Jum'ah, member of Amal Movement's Political Bureau, attended.

After the meeting, Hamadah said: We briefed Nabih Birri on the atmosphere of the meetings and consultations that took place in the Syrian capital in the presence of Syrian First Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The meetings and consultations dealt with relations among the opposition parties and following up the resolutions agreed upon at the Lausanne conference.

Meetings Called Positive

NC171826 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The intensive national meetings held in Damascus during the past days focused on the search for a means of reaching an effective consolidation of the cease-fire, which would be a starting point for discussing political reforms. These contacts included the Lebanese national leaders and Syrian leaders. Commenting on these contacts, nationalist sources confirmed that the meetings and contacts held by former Ministers Khalid Junblatt and Marwan Hamadah in Damascus were very positive. Syrian officials have shown understanding for the following three conditions submitted by the Lebanese national forces in order to achieve reconciliation:

1. The issue of the south and its liberation.
2. The issue of the Army and its reorganization.
3. Political reforms, which are considered the starting point for any possible reconciliation among the Lebanese.

Junblatt To Meet Birri

NC172110 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt returned to Beirut from Damascus following consultations in the Syrian capital on the current situation in Lebanon. It has been learned that Junblatt will meet with Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri to discuss the talks held in Damascus about the Lebanese situation.

Observers Deployed in Beirut Positions 17 April

NC171754 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] French and Lebanese observers were deployed in the Al-Murr tower building [in Beirut] at 1715 today. At the same

time, gunmen went down to the lower floors of the building. A similar deployment was effected in the Rizq tower this morning. The number of the observers in both buildings is 8 Frenchmen and 16 Lebanese gendarmes. They will be relieved every 6 hours.

Franjiyah Welcomes Deployment
NC171552 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah held his weekly news conference today. He dealt with the current situation in Lebanon. He welcomed the state's decision to entrust observers from among some reserve officers with supervision of the cease-fire. He expressed his hope that the government will have enough courage to name the party that first violates the cease-fire. [Former] President Franjiyah began his news conference by congratulating Syria on the occasion of National Day and by expressing the hope that Lebanese officials will resume celebrating this anniversary in Lebanon.

Speaker Urges Sham'un Not To Promote Federation
NC161558 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad said he asked [former] President Camille Sham'un to stop promoting his formula on the future of Lebanon, because such a proposal cannot be adopted in a state of confusion and anarchy and in an atmosphere of fear, terrorism, and alarmism. The Chamber of Deputies speaker maintained that the present government situation constitutes a constitutional crisis, and he cannot ignore this situation for long. He will be forced to summon the government to a joint meeting of parliamentary committees to clarify the pending issues.

Fadi Afram Calls for Decentralized Security
NC180736 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram has called for a new formula in which religious communities will coexist within the framework of a territorially united Lebanon and a decentralized political administration. He noted that the Christians and the Druze are the parties most likely to accept such a formula.

Afram said that the whole region is fermenting and that future developments may alter the balance of power. Calling for a decentralized security, he asked why shouldn't there be a Christian brigade after the recent events spawned a Druze brigade and a Shi'ite brigade.

Afram indicated that the Lebanese forces respect the Druze entity. What is required in exchange is respect for the free Christian presence in Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh and the Christians' return to their homes in a way that secures the interests of all. He affirmed that he supports dialogue among the young generation.

Afram described the Al-Kharrub region agreement as successful. He said it could be the prelude for the return of the Christians to the mountain and for a political agreement with the Druze in the way we want so that this political agreement will be a prelude to Lebanon's new political structure.

Afram described former President Franjiyah's stand toward the Lausanne conference resolutions as positive. He said the unification of the Christian ranks is a priority for which we must work. He called for the solution of the problem of the refugees from northern Lebanon, the Lebanese forces' strugglers, and the Phalangists who were forced to leave their homes and sources of livelihood.

Al-Jumayyil Receives Cable From Al-Qadhdhafi
NC171542 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] In a cable of congratulations he sent to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the occasion of National Day, President Amin al-Jumayyil stressed the importance of continuing to strengthen relations between the two countries.

President Al-Jumayyil also received a cable from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi after the Presidential Palace in B'abda was hit by artillery fire last week. In his cable, Al-Qadhdhafi said the shelling of the palace indicates the need to quickly resolve the Lebanese problem.

Israel Closes Crossing Point in Al-Biqa'
NC180558 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Without giving any reasons, Israel closed the crossing point from western Al-Biqa' to central and northern Al-Biqa' for 15 days. This measure has come amid Syrian and Israeli military movements.

Israel's Kimche Met With Phalangists 'Last Week'
NC171829 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] It has been learned that David Kimche, director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, spent all last week in East Beirut. Reports confirm that Kimche met with Lebanese Forces officials and with a number of political personalities. The last meeting he held was last Saturday with Phalangist leader Pierre al-Jumayyil. They discussed the phase following the abrogation of the 17 May treaty and the means of overcoming it. Kimche stressed Israel's continued support for the Lebanese Forces, both militarily and financially. He also stressed that Israel has abandoned cooperation with the Lebanese regime. Proof of this was the formation of the regional army in the south.

Libyan Diplomat Invites Mufti Khalid to Visit
NC161918 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the Lebanese Republic, received Muhammad al-Fituri, charge d'affaires of the Libyan People's Bureau in Lebanon. They discussed the latest political developments in Lebanon, as well as the current Arab efforts to normalize the Lebanese situation.

After the meeting, Al-Fituri said he extended an official invitation to Mufti Khalid to visit the Libyan Jamahiriyah for talks on issues concerning the fraternal Lebanese and Libyan peoples. Al-Fituri said Mufti Khalid gave him an oral message for the leader of the 1 September Revolution, expressing his good sentiments toward the leader and people of the Jamahiriyah and emphasizing his appreciation for the 1 September Revolution's attitude toward Lebanon in more than one domain.

Amal Searches for Palestinian Arms Caches
NC162058 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Amal gunmen today seized an arms cache previously used by the Palestinians near Sabri Hamadah Palace on the Airport Road. They found 500 Kalashnikovs, 15 B-7 shells, and 15 DSHK machine guns. Amal gunmen are continuing their search for other arms caches in the Palestinian camps.

Al-Jumayyil To Arrive in Damascus 19 April
JN181225 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will arrive in Damascus tomorrow to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad. This meeting will be the third between the two presidents since President al-Jumayyil assumed his constitutional powers as president of the Republic of Lebanon.

In the first meeting which took place during the Nonaligned Summit Conference in New Delhi, the positive results were expressed by the statements of the Lebanese president and several Lebanese ministers, who affirmed Syria's support for Lebanon and its readiness to give every possible assistance to it.

In the second meeting which took place between the two presidents last February in Damascus, the Lebanese president found in Syria all the readiness to assist the Lebanese brothers in their endeavor to liberate their national territory from the Israeli invaders and from the agreement through which the United States and Israel wanted to chain Lebanon and deprive it of its right to sovereignty on its territory, air space, and territorial waters, as well as their endeavor to affirm their Arab affiliation and to achieve national reconciliation.

Syria's stand in the New Delhi and Damascus meetings was a firm and principled one stemming from Syria's national interests, pan-Arab responsibilities, and relations with Lebanon. This stand has continued to govern Syria's relationship with Lebanon despite the many attempts to drive a wedge between them, to turn Lebanon against Syria, and to use Lebanon as an instrument of pressure and blackmail against Syria and all the Arabs who reject Camp David and its new image, the so-called Reagan proposals for the Middle East.

This principled Syrian stand, declared by President Hafiz al-Asad on more than one occasion, will remain firm in the future also and will be felt by the Lebanese president whenever he comes to Damascus and meets with President al-Asad. What is between Syria and Lebanon is stronger and more viable than all the plots, maneuvers, and plans of the enemies of Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation.

Lebanon has found Syria on its side whenever it looked for Syrian assistance. Syria will continue to perform its pan-Arab and fraternal duty toward the fraternal Lebanese people and will continue to support Lebanon's unity, both people and land, Lebanon's independence and sovereignty over its territory, and the Lebanese national reconciliation which unites the Lebanese, closes their ranks, and ensures rights, guarantees, justice, and equality for them away from the formulas of victor and vanquished, domination, and factionalism.

The common destiny, historical ties, factors of geography and history, and the bonds of kinship and affiliation make it incumbent on Syria and Lebanon to cooperate and support one another. The strength of one side is support for the other. Every good thing gained by one side is a good thing for the other, and every harm done to one side is harm to the other. Syria has clearly stated its view on the 17 May agreement, has welcomed the Lebanese nationalist stand on its abrogation, and has promised, and still stands by its promise, to help fraternal Lebanon in its struggle to remove the invading Israeli forces from Lebanon. Syria which has opposed the ideas of partition, dismemberment, and division in Lebanon, has supported and will continue to support Lebanese national reconciliation as the key to tackling the problems facing Lebanon and the first essential step toward rectifying the situation there, confronting hostile plans, and getting rid of the effects and vestiges of the civil war and the Israeli invasion.

As President Hafiz al-Asad said, there will be no problem between Syria and Lebanon once Lebanon has liberated its territory from the Israeli invaders and achieved national reconciliation among its sons.

President al-Asad Receives USSR's Brutents
JN181128 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1230 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Karen Brutents, deputy chairman of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by the USSR Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin.

Al-Asad Opens Publishing, Printing Building
JN171618 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] During Evacuation Day celebrations, President Hafiz al-Asad today inaugurated the new Al-Wahdah Publishing and Printing House building on Kafr Susa Circle in Damascus.

On arriving at the building at 1230 this afternoon, the president was welcomed by Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh and director of the publishing house Muhammad Khayr al-Wadi. The president was also received by Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; General Mustafa Talas, deputy prime minister and defense minister; Higher Education Minister Ziyad ash-Shuwaiky; directors of information establishments in Syria; representatives of journalists' unions; and the employees at Al-Wahdah House.

After the president cut the silk ribbon to inaugurate the building, he unveiled a plaque commemorating this occasion. He then moved on with his hosts to the building's main hall, where he conversed with the information men about their affairs.

The information men thanked the president for his great patronage of information and its men in Syria and for the achievements reached thanks to this patronage. They expressed their devotion and loyalty to the leader of the nation, pledging their determination to multiply their efforts to increase productivity both in the information field and in the battle against Zionism, imperialism, and reactionaryism.

The president then moved to the Al-Wahdah house printing press where he was warmly welcomed and cheered by the workers. The president toured the various sections and acquainted himself with the working conditions. He listened to the speeches made by the workers' representatives in which they expressed the working class' loyalty to President al-Asad and its determination to march under his leadership in order to achieve a socialist and progressive society. The representatives thanked the president for visiting them and viewing their working conditions. After the visit to the press, the Al-Wahdah house employees gave the president a souvenir of a coat of arms carrying the insignia of the house.

At the end of the visit, President Hafiz al-Asad wrote the following in the visitors book: On this historic day, Evacuation Day, when the last foreign colonialist soldier left our country, it gives me pleasure to open this building which will be the premises of Al-Qahdah Publishing and Printing House. It is one of the most important information establishments in our country, and one carrying out a distinct role in public control and guidance. These things are the foundations for further progress in building the Arab society to which we aspire, the society of socialism and progress which achieves justice for the people and is able to effectively confront all imperialist, Zionist and reactionary challenges.

My thanks to all those who participated in building and equiping this building. My thanks and greetings to all the employees of Al-Wahdah house, and my wishes to all for success and progress.

The president left the Al-Wahdah building as the employees cheered for his long life.

Mashariqah Addresses Evacuation Day Rally

JN180710 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The Damascus Ba'th Party Branch Command held a central speech rally in the Damascus University auditorium this evening in commemoration of the 38th anniversary of evacuation day. The rally was attended by Comrade Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, acting as President Hafiz al-Asad's representative; People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi; Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Ba'th Party National and Regional Command members; the Progressive National Front Central Command members; ministers; the secretaries and members of the Ba'th Party branches in Damascus, the Damascus countryside, the university, and Al-Qunaytirah; the Damascus governor; the heads and members of the executive bureaus of popular organizations; the comrade secretaries and members of the command of the Ba'th Party branches; a large number of the brother mujahidin; and men from the Syrian revolution, as well as a large crowd.

Comrade Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah delivered the Ba'th Party speech in which he said: The evacuation, whose 38th anniversary we are currently celebrating, was a fruit of the people's long struggle against French colonialism. This struggle did not stop at liberating the homeland and evacuating the usurpers of our land, but continued increasingly on various levels. Following the evacuation on 17 April 1946 and their repelling of French colonialism, the Syrian masses pursued the struggle against all traces of the spiteful French colonialism and for entrenching the basis of national independence and establishing a modern state and a progressive society. This is in addition to continuing the struggle against the colonialist Zionist entity in the beloved Palestine and helping the other Arab countries suffering from the yoke of colonialism to achieve their national liberation and independence.

Mashariqah added: Our choosing the path of honor, defending the homeland and its independence, and defending the Arab nation, its rights, and honor requires us to work in order to build the solid base of steadfastness, confrontation, and achieve strategic balance between Syria and the Zionist entity in all its human, economic, military, and political aspects. This is because achieving this balance is an inevitable condition for liberating the occupied Arab lands and regaining the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their rights to remain steadfast, to self-determination, and to build their independent state on their national soil.

Mashariqah said: Achieving a just peace that preserves the Arab nation's rights and honor requires us to be strong in an age where neither the usurped rights can be regained nor the occupied land liberated through lazily begging at the doors of the countries which contributed toward all the Arab tragedies, imagining these forces will return the rights to us — those rights which theyhelped to usurp.

He added that building Syria's intrinsic military strength, achieving strategic balance with the Zionist enemy, and strengthening the ties of friendship and cooperation with the forces of liberation and progress in the world — foremost of which are the socialist bloc countries, particularly the USSR, the loyal loyal friend of the Arab nation and the strong ally to the Arab masses and their just issues — is the path most guaranteed to confront the forces of evil and aggression.

Mashariqah reviewed the general situation in the Middle East and said that foiling the 17 May agreement, the agreement of submission, was one of the most significant events in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It was a harbinger of foiling all courses of treason, liquidatory plans, and submissive solutions. This abrogation was one of the most significant world events which marked a big defeat for racist U.S. imperialism, following the United States' defeat in Vietnam.

Concluding his speech, Mashariqah saluted Syria's martyrs, who sacrificed themselves to achieve independence — those whom President al-Asad described as the noblest and the most generous persons in the world and in humanity. He also saluted the brave Armed Forces, the shield of the homeland and the defenders of the Arab nation, its honor, and rights. Furthermore, he saluted the forces of liberation and progress in the world — foremost of which are the socialist bloc countries, particularly the friendly USSR, for its stand in support of the just Arab struggle.

He also saluted the great Ba'th Party and its secretary general Comrade Struggler Hafiz al-Asad — the leader of the Arab liberation movement, the symbol of the Arab revolution, the hero of steadfastness and confrontation against imperialist and Zion-

ist plots, and the symbol of the Arab masses' hope toward liberating their occupied territories, regaining their usurped rights, and building their bright and prosperous future — the future of unity, freedom, and socialism.

Khaddam To Visit Athens 25-27 May

NC171923 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1830 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam will pay an official visit to Greece from 25 to 27 May at the head of a government delegation. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam will be received in Athens by President Konstandinos Karamanlis and will have talks with Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. A conference will be held at the Foreign Ministry between the two countries' delegations.

The purpose of the visit is the development of Greek-Syrian relations.

LA STAMPA Carries Khaddam Interview

AU171535 Rome ANSA in English 1520 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] (ANSA) Rome April 17 — The Syrian troops in Lebanon will stay on in the country until the last Israeli soldier of occupation is withdrawn from the country, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam declared in an interview appearing in today's edition of the Turin daily, *LA STAMPA*.

In this connection, the Damascus government official insisted that Israel "underwent an enormous political turnaround" when Lebanon scrapped the United States-mediated agreement signed last May 17 with Israel for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon. He asserted that for this reason, Israel is now attempting to block Lebanon's path towards national reconciliation.

In a more general statement, the vice president argued that the Soviet Union "is on the side of the victims of aggression and grants aid to repel this aggression. The more the American role grows in the Middle East, the more the Soviet role will grow in the region," Khaddam asserted.

With reference to rumors circulating in the Arab press of a power struggle underway in the Damascus leadership, the vice president said: "These are illusions created by those who want a weak Syria. In Syria, the regime is strong, it is led by a party which has its roots in the people and its secretary general is Hafiz al-Asad," the Syrian president.

TASS Cited on Israeli Reinforcements in Al-Biqa'

JN180647 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Beirut — Reports from Al-Biqa' say that the Zionist military forces of invasion are carrying out large-scale preparations along the contact line with the Syrian forces within the ADF. Observers consider these moves a prelude to launching an aggression against the Syrian forces. TASS says reports have affirmed that Israel is reinforcing its positions on the contact line with armored units and additional heavy artillery units. It is also rearranging these forces.

TASS also said that the Zionist forces of invasion are playing havoc in western Al-Biqa' and are carrying out search, harassment, and arrest campaigns. They also detained dozens of persons in Sidon, Ar-Rafid, Jubb Jannin, and other cities and villages in this area without any tangible reason. The agency said that the Zionist forces' attempts to conquer the escalating Lebanese national resistance have failed. The Lebanese national struggle has been expanding. During the past 24 hours, the Lebanese resistance men carried out new operations against the Zionist forces in southern Lebanon. On one of the main streets in An-Nabatiyah, the resistance men hurled hand grenades at an Israeli patrol and destroyed an armored personnel vehicle. They also ambushed another Israeli patrol near the town and injured a number of its members.

ATH-THAWRAH Comments on U.S. 'Anti-Syria' Plans

JN180900 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] *ATH-THAWRAH* has said that U.S. President Ronald Reagan's administration is still acting as if this region falls within its vital zone of influence despite all the defeats it has suffered in its Middle East policy. The newspaper pointed out that the U.S. *NEWSWEEK* magazine revealed that the Reagan administration is planning to build strategic depots of ammunition, fuel, and military supplies in the region. *ATH-THAWRAH* said: It seems that the United States has decided to mount a large-scale military intervention in the region based on its alliance of security and aggression with Israel.

The newspaper said that all reports from Washington speak openly about the Reagan administration's intention to avenge its defeat in Lebanon. Naturally, Israel is closely connected with these U.S. plans and preparations. This is confirmed by the escalating Israeli threats against Syria.

Concluding its comment, *ATH-THAWRAH* said: While calling for legitimate concern, these indications fully show the imperialist- Zionist impasse in the region from which Washington and Tel Aviv cannot easily escape. This is because time is not running in their favor and because there is always a force that continues to reject and resist.

Israel's Use of Term 'Terrorism' Assailed

JN161602 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Israeli minister of war Moshe Arens visited a number of Israeli soldiers wounded during the Lebanese nationalists' operations against the Israeli occupation forces in Lebanon. He seized this opportunity to accuse Syria of being behind both the operations the Palestinian fedayeen carry out inside occupied Palestine and those the Lebanese nationalists carry out against the

Israeli occupation forces in Lebanese territory. Arens has described these operations as terrorism, and has portrayed Israel as a country exposed to terrorist actions and deserving every sympathy, solidarity, assistance and support from the international community for any aggressive actions Israel might carry out against Syria, Lebanon, or the Palestinian Arab people.

Despite their skill in forging and inverting facts, misleading world public opinion, capitalizing on Nazi crimes, begging in the name of Nazi victims, and covering aggressive actions with false allegations such as combatting terrorism and threats of aggression, the Israeli rulers' claims and justifications for keeping their invading forces in Lebanese territory and for continuing their aggressive actions against the Palestinian Arab people both inside and outside Palestine could not even persuade the Israeli newspaper *'AL-HAMISHMAR*, which pointed out this morning there are four issues occupying the Israelis. One of them pertains to practicing a policy of occupation and persecution against the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza —a fact, as the Israeli newspaper put it, that makes us an occupying people. It added that past experience has proven that any group of people trying to deprive another people of their freedom and independence might lose its own freedom.

When they fail to persuade the newspaper *'AL-HAMISHMAR* of the policy of persecution and occupation, how can the Israeli rulers' allegations mislead world public opinion and conceal facts about the essence of the Israeli policy that turned the Middle East into a hotbed of war and tension. Any exploitation of the alleged terrorism to justify acts of injustice, persecution, crimes against humanity, assassination of innocent people, and usurpation of rights is not an invention of the Israeli rulers. The rulers of Nazi Germany also made such exploitations, and they used to describe legitimate resistance against occupation as terrorism.

The history of the colonialist, imperialist, and racist countries is also full of evidence about killing innocent people, usurping rights, and depicting legitimate struggle for freedom and self-determination as terrorism and a departure from law. This was the case in Algeria, Vietnam, South Africa, and other places. However, people did not view the allegations of the occupiers and aggressors as legitimate, and those allegations did not prevent people from achieving victory. Where have Nazi Germany, French Algeria, and American Vietnam gone? The aggressors and occupiers have gone; the people achieved victory and freedom, and practiced their right to self-determination. These people are now honoring the heroes of resistance and cursing the fascists and criminals. The rulers of Nazi Germany were tried before the peoples' court in Nuremberg.

No matter how much they use the word terrorism to stop legitimate resistance against occupation and legitimate struggle for the sake of freedom and the right to self-determination, the Israeli rulers will never be able to get rid of their responsibility for turning the organized policy of terrorism into an Israeli policy to be carried out by regular forces using planes, tanks, guns, and missiles as well as by ground and naval forces. They will never be able to legitimize either the presence of the Israeli occupation forces in the occupied Arab territories or their usurpation of the Palestinian Arab people's rights and lands. They will not succeed in turning the Arab countries and the international organizations into protectors of Israeli occupation.

Those terrorists whose hands are stained with blood are the Israeli rulers. They launched aggression not only on individuals but also on an entire people, and they occupied the lands of a number of countries. They also use the war machine the United States gave them in order to carry out acts of terrorism and crime and to violate law in the Middle East. The terrorist is neither the one who resists occupation nor the nationalist who seeks self-determination, freedom, and independence. The terrorist is the one who occupies other people's lands by force, and the one who conquers other people, commits crimes against them, and usurps their rights.

Syria Threatens To Bomb Settlements, U.S. Ships

TA181151 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] The Syrian defense minister has threatened that Syrian forces will immediately bombard Israeli settlements if the Israeli Air Force bombs Palestinian camps in Syrian territory in retaliation for the latest terrorist attacks.

Interviewed by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS*, Mustafa Talas disclosed that 300 Syrian Air Force pilots have recently practiced suicide attacks on U.S. vessels in the Mediterranean Sea. According to Talas, in the friendship pact it signed with Damascus the Soviet Union also undertook to help Syria in Lebanon. Mustafa Talas pointed out that the missile batteries on Syrian territory cover the entire Lebanese territory. He emphasized that Damascus would not be averse to redeploying its troops in Lebanon if asked to do so.

Chief of Staff Moshe Levi on IDF, Lebanon

TA161124 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 16 Apr 84 Holiday Supplement pp 4, 5,

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi by Yisra'el Zamir, Sever Plotsker, and Alex Fishman — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Since we are holding this talk before the Passover holiday, let me ask in what way the IDF of Passover 1984 is different from the IDF before Lebanon, as regards training, motivation, morale, and ethics?

Answer: I do not like to sum up developments according to dates. Summing up should be done according to events. The present period is characterized by two pressures with which we have to deal. The first, which is a short term problem, concerns our activity against terrorism in Lebanon. The second, which is more essential in the long term, has to do with the budget, resources, and the general needs of the army.

I believe that our system in Lebanon has stabilized. In September we trimmed our forces in Lebanon. As a result of this, some of the units have not done the second period of service planned for them in Lebanon, and we have managed to stabilize training to the same level as before the war. Today the regular army trains as before.

Question: Even if it is deployed in Lebanon?

Answer: Even if it is in Lebanon. That is, in Lebanon the army does not usually train. However, any one unit's stay in Lebanon has been shortened, and this allows training to continue as before the war. As for training the reservists, we have returned to the former level, which is limited from our point of view, due to the resources available to us: the length of time for which we can call up reservists, the resources that can be allocated to them during training, and so forth.

A second thing, which is not often mentioned at present but which in my opinion can determine the quality of the army to a large extent, is investments. The purpose of investments is to maintain our level, our ability to be equipped in future with the most up-to-date armament. This means investments for arms' development and purchasing. In order to maintain our ability 4 years from now, it is necessary to invest today.

Third, there is the problem of the career army. At present, besides economic pressure, for various reasons, most of them irrelevant, there is a feeling that serving in the career army is not important.

Question: What are the irrelevant reasons?

Answer: Irrelevant since in some of cases the issue is the government's policy, which was thrown in the lap of the military men. In some cases people tried to analyze the phenomena of refusing to serve, which did not necessarily stem from Lebanon, and attributed them to Lebanon. If I were asked what is the most worrying of all these phenomena, I would say that it is the fact that we might not be able to bring the best people to serve in the career army. Even if we can solve the problem of resources, and find more time for training, if the best people do not serve in the career army we will always be less good than we should be.

Question: The army started the Lebanese war with its full power, after completing a building-up process. Today it is impossible to ignore the fact that something happened to the army during the war and after it ended. You claim that the regular army returned to its normal training schedule, but can you say that this army resembles the army which entered the war, or is it still in the process of recovering from the war?

Answer: If the IDF now resembled the IDF before the war it would be a bad army. An army must always be better than in the past. The process of strengthening never ends, and it is continuing at present. The means possessed by the army at present are better than what it had before the war. This is the way it should be, for in the meantime the enemy is also developing. Today we are able to make the most out of the means we possess. There is a new generation of young officers, who have not received the proper training in the last 2 years. However, at present this generation is getting much better. For example, in the last year more officers went through courses training company and battalion commanders. Thus the emphasis is not necessarily in returning to the former situation, but rather finding the right answer for the needs of today. I believe the results prove that we are finding those answers.

Question: There is an argument which keeps recurring and it is raised by reserve officers as well, saying that the IDF's stay in Lebanon has a negative moral effect on the army, as a result of the contact with a population with different traditions and norms, and also from the status of being a real occupation army, unlike the situation in Judaea and Samaria.

Answer: Look, it is not good to be in Nabulus or An-Nabatiyah. I do not recommend searching for explanations as to why it is good to be in Nabulus from the viewpoint of military activity, or stating that Nabulus is good while An-Nabatiyah is bad. It is not healthy for an army to have to deal with a civilian population or with issues which are not entirely military in

nature. However, the army is doing this in Lebanon, and in Gaza, and in Nabulus, since this is the way the system is built. This has a negative effect on the army. It is better for the army to be on the battlefield, if necessary, or in training camps, and not to have to deal with any kind of population. Therefore, in this issue I would not recommend differentiating between our stay in the territories and our stay in Lebanon. There is an operational difference, but the problems of the administration and the army are similar.

Question: Two weeks ago during a tour in Lebanon for newspaper editors, we had the opportunity to talk with many top officers, and most of them (contrary to the IDF's official position), express in private the opinion that were the IDF to withdraw today to the international border, little security damage would be done, and they even recommend it.

Answer: Maybe you know officers that I do not know. I suggest that we view the issue of leaving Lebanon as a security problem, without involving our personal feelings. Across the Lebanese border there is no group which can guarantee that a hostile infrastructure will not be created. There, as in every other place, there are elements who seek to harm us, and if there is no Lebanese body which can stop them, another body should be found, and the best body is the IDF, even though we want to use this body as little as possible for this purpose. To say that this problem can be ignored is simply irresponsible.

At present there is a southern army of Lebanon, and we have relations with various bodies. However, it is very difficult to rely on them, since their internal state is very complicated. However, it is very important to maintain relations with them, since most of them want to prevent terrorist activity for reasons of their own, even if they do not have the power to do so. Those who have the power do prevent terrorist activity. The Druze, notwithstanding the complicated relations they have in the Lebanese and inter-Arab arena, believe that it will not serve their purposes to have terrorists in the Ash-Shuf area. Their purposes coincide with our interest. Another substitution for the lacking central power in Lebanon could be an international force in one form or another.

A combination of substituting forces would give a satisfactory level of security. However, until such a combination comes about, the IDF will have to help, as demanded by the situation.

Question: What are the options which you have to consider concerning deployment in Lebanon, other than those you presented so far to the government?

Answer: In problems of this nature, there is no end to checking and examining. I can remind you about the great concern we had over the agreement being abrogated and the Syrians taking control of the Lebanese central administration. I remember saying in various forums: "It is not over, it's a new beginning from a different angle." I am not sure I sounded very reliable, but events proved me right. There are constant changes in the area, within our influence and as a result of our influence. For example, there is UNIFIL. We are used to seeing UNIFIL as a phenomenon which cannot change. However, I think there can be a change in the deployment of UNIFIL. These are processes with which we have to deal, even if at first they are not clear and do not look promising. Therefore, when there are changes, the plans change and the possibilities are different. This is a dynamic process, since our area is dynamic, to say the least.

Question: Let us return to southern Lebanon. We are helping to construct the southern army of Lebanon. The ethical standards of the Lebanese armies leave much to be desired, and it is feared that they too will commit massacres in Jibshit, where two women were killed, and we will pay the price in ethical and political terms.

Answer: Massacre? And when someone is killed in Nabulus it is not a "massacre?" Every event occurs in particular circumstances, and I am not sure that the IDF soldiers would have behaved differently in similar circumstances. Let us be frank and not pretend that this never happens to us. Therefore I do not accept the term "massacre." I have already said that an army which has to deal with such issues comes face to face with unpleasant situations. However, my answer to you question about the southern army of Lebanon is unequivocal: If we want the norms of the IDF to prevail in southern Lebanon, than we must leave the IDF there.

Question: How long will it be until the southern army of Lebanon is able to replace the IDF, allowing it to withdraw from Lebanon?

Answer: I cannot state a definite date. I suggest that you ask the U.S. generals who — in the talks about the agreement — assessed the power of the Lebanese Army in terms of battalions, brigades, and tanks. Later we saw that this army, when it suddenly lost its legitimacy, turned into a body with no real power. Therefore, we have to consider processes involving objective tests of power.

For this reason, the IDF's help to the southern army of Lebanon will determine the whole situation, and not just the objective strength of the southern army of Lebanon. A substitute for the IDF's help could be the Lebanese Administration's recognizing this army, for example.

Question: Does this mean that in any arrangement in southern Lebanon there would be some presence of the IDF?

Answer: The arrangement, which is almost a year old, was formal and well ordered. It stipulated the presence of IDF people in southern Lebanon. That is, even in the supposedly ideal arrangement which was reached, the presence of IDF soldiers across the line was stipulated.

Question: You talked about the role filled by the IDF in Nabulus and Gaza, and you said that this resulted from the demands of the system. Can you think of a different system which would release the IDF from having to deal with the civilian population in those areas?

Answer: Yes. For example, implementing Israeli law in Judaea and Samaria.

Question: Do you support this idea?

Answer: Do you want me to talk about this?

Question: Yes. Do you believe in this idea?

Answer: It has nothing to do with my belief. You asked me about a technical solution in which the army would not be responsible — if Israeli law is enforced in Nabulus, then just as I am not responsible for Tel Aviv I will not be responsible for Nabulus. However, let us not debate the question of "yes or no." As long as the status of the territories remains as it is today, authority in the area stems from the IDF.

UNIFIL Renewal Delayed by Soviet Demand

TA160648 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] The UN Security Council will make an effort today to reach a decision on extending the mandate of the UN force in southern Lebanon, which ends this Thursday. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that the decision is being delayed due to the Soviet demand [derishat] that the council determine set tasks for UNIFIL and step up supervision over it. Currently, this authority is mainly in the hands of the Lebanese president.

At the same time, the UNIFIL command complained that IDF armored personnel carriers last week intentionally hit a French position in the village of Qana. However, it is said in the IDF that the incident involved a slight collision at a roadblock set up by French soldiers, and that it was blown out of all proportion by UNIFIL.

Two Attacks on IDF in Lebanon; No Casualties

TA180956 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0948 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] There were two attempts to attack our forces in Lebanon last night and this morning, but no one was hurt in either case. A bomb exploded near the Burj ash-Shamali refugee camp as an IDF patrol was passing by. In the second incident, an RPG was fired at an IDF outpost in the village of Ma'rub. This report was filed by our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz.

HA'ARETZ's Benziman on Israeli, U.S. Elections

TA151225 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Apr 84 p 7

[Commentary by Washington correspondent 'Uzi Benziman: "Israel and the United States — Between Two Election Campaigns"]

[Text] A number of bombastic headlines illustrated this week that the election season in Israel is already in full swing. Journalists heralded a possible visit by the prime minister to Washington, far-reaching improvements in the Israeli defense exports to the United States, and the convening of an international economic conference in Israel that will result in large revenues which will move Israel toward economic independence. Even if the headlines were incorrect or imprecise or nothing new, they reflected one truth nevertheless: All Israeli Government branches are already acting to impress the electorate. It is not by accident that each one of the earth-shaking headlines concerns one aspect or another of Israeli relations with the United States. Thus, the headlines point to the tendency of the present government to capitalize on its relations with the Washington administration in order to shed positive light on its achievements.

At the same time an election campaign is also being conducted in the United States, and traditionally the Jewish vote there carries considerable weight. In theory, large headlines in the U.S. press should have broken news of plans, gestures, or favorable statements by the present administration vis-a-vis Israel. Theoretically, the administration should have fulfilled its part of the equation whereby if elections are held in the two countries during the same period, the two governments have a common interest in demonstrating mutual closeness. After all, according to elementary political logic, if it is good for the Israeli Government to prove closeness to the United States, it is equally good for the White House, in an election year, to demonstrate a special friendship toward Israel.

For the time being this has not been the case. The Reagan administration is not revealing as yet an inclination to demonstrate special gestures toward the Shamir government in an election period. On the contrary, Caspar Weinberger, who had planned a private visit to Israel in order to improve his image in the eyes of the Jewish voters in the United States, cancelled his plan after the decision on early elections was made in Israel. George Bush did not hesitate this past week to declare from the AIPAC [American-Israel Public Affairs Committee] rostrum that arms should be sold to Jordan and that the U.S. Embassy should not be transferred from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

And if this were not enough, the U.S. Administration raised an eyebrow at the report on the possible arrival of Yitzhaq Shamir in Washington. If the purpose of that report was to examine the reaction of the administration, Jerusalem should take note that the reaction was cool and reserved. Something in the equation has been disrupted. For the time being, at any event, the Washington administration is not acting as if it were strongly courting the Jewish vote by demonstrating a special closeness to Israel. It is very probable that this is a temporary situation that will change in the course of the coming months, but for the time being this is the impression that the White House is giving.

It seems that the main cause for this is the gap in the timing of the elections in Israel and in the United States. Since the elections in Israel will be held on 23 July while the elections in the United States will only take place on 6 November, President Reagan and his aides can wait until after the Israeli election results are known before they come out with any gimmicks aimed at influencing the Jewish vote. In fact, the main round in the battle between the Republicans and the Democrats will only begin toward the end of July (only on 19 July will the Democratic Party Convention end and it is there that the presidential nominee will be decided), and until then the administration can hold its pro-Israeli tricks.

This is on the assumption that the Reagan administration is interested in strengthening the Alignment in the elections and

therefore is not enthusiastic about gestures which would indicate closeness to Israel (gestures which serve its election needs). Is this assumption well-based? Only to a certain extent. Administration officials are of course careful not to express a position which reflects preference for a certain party in Israel, but here and there one can hear reports about declarations by senior officials. If one can rely on this scarce information, the lion's share of the senior officials in the State Department and National Security Council who deal with Middle East affairs believe that an Alignment-led government is preferable from Washington's viewpoint since a better chance for a dialogue with Jordan is inherent in it.

However, there are two sides to the equation. Israel, too, can somewhat influence the U.S. election campaign. The government in Jerusalem knows how to hint its preferences to the Jewish electorate in the United States and the Washington administration is aware of this. It is for this reason that the administration should carefully consider its moves, so as not to infuriate the Shamir government. Somebody in Jerusalem will start thinking who is preferable from Israel's point of view: A President who has so far behaved with sympathy and understanding toward Israel but who will now serve a second — and generally less comfortable — term, or a Democratic President who has the image of a clear supporter of Israel indeed, but who served under Carter and gave an official seal to Carter's Middle East policy. Anyone who considers this issue will remember that a second Reagan term does not necessarily herald an unfavorable change in the administration's attitude toward Israel, not only due to Reagan's basic tendencies but also because of the clear knowledge that his vice president, George Bush, wants to contest the presidency in the next term and it is highly probable that this will affect his positions vis-a-vis Israel. The same holds true for the positions of senators elected under Reagan and who will face the test in 2 years again.

Regardless of the decision to hold early elections in Israel, the U.S. Administration stopped pressuring Israel, striking off the agenda bones of contention pending in the bilateral relations. The administration has acted according to U.S. election needs. Since the decision for early elections in Israel was made, the administration (so far at least) has not initiated a revival of problematic issues which could have distressed the Likud government. On the other hand, the administration does not demonstrate willingness to speed up the pace of deliberations on bilateral issues, which — if concluded — could have served the Likud's election needs (the strategic cooperation; the establishment of a free trade zone; the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel).

The two governments are then weaving a fabric of very delicate influences on each other's election campaign. This mutual dependence is only beginning now and should be reexamined when the political race in the two countries advances further. For the time being the power ratio seems to be in Reagan's favor. His need for gestures toward Israel in order to win the support of the Jewish public appears marginal in comparison with the Likud's need for U.S. gestures in order to aggrandize the government's prestige in Israel. There is one reservation about this statement: Bureaucracy has power of its own and if, as a result of a bureaucratic process, cooperation will be demonstrated between the two countries even before the elections in Israel (this is especially true for the strategic dialogue sphere), this will not necessarily signify the Washington administration's desire to aid the Likud; this will rather be a sign for the ripening of deliberations conducted by both Israeli and U.S. professionals for a number of months already.

Labor Election Headquarters To Be Set Up Soon

TA180535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] The Labor Party will set up its election headquarters immediately after Passover [ending 23 April]. Moshe Shahal, the chairman of the Alignment caucus in the Knesset, has been chosen to run the headquarters. The party's top four — Chairman Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Navon, Yitzhaq Rabin, and Hayim Bar-Lev — chose Shahal and also appointed Gad Ya'aqobi party economic spokesman during the election campaign.

Some 40 Arabs and 10 Druze have been nominated so far for places on the Labor-Alignment Knesset list for the coming election. A special Arab sector committee of the Labor Party met yesterday and decided that Arab candidates for the list would be chosen by Arab party members. The Alignment is expected to offer three safe places on the list to Arab candidates.

Poll Shows 'Solid Lead' for Labor Alignment

TA160655 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by Hanokh and Rafi Smith]

[Text] The Labour Alignment moved to a solid lead over the Likud in a survey taken by the Smith Research Centre from last Sunday to Thursday, April 8 to 12. The Alignment led the Likud by 41 percent to 28 percent, as the campaign opened for the Knesset elections.

Polled were 1,157 Jews, including residents of cities, development towns, moshavim and kibbutzim.

Compared to the Knesset election results in 1981, the Alignment gained 4 percent, and the Likud declined by 12 percent.

However, when compared to the Smith poll of December 1983, the changes were less radical. Over the four months since then the Labour Alignment only gained 0.5 percent while the Likud slipped by 6 percent.

It is, therefore, the Likud decline more than the Labour gain that distinguishes last week's poll, according to the pollsters.

In last week's poll, the list of 'Ezer Weizman garnered approximately 3 percent of this vote, and Tehiya claimed over 4 percent.

Religious parties also scored modest gains, returning to their 1981 election results.

All these lists cut into the 34 percent obtained by the Likud in the December 1983 poll.

Among the smaller opposition parties, no significant changes were registered. Shinuy and the CRM (Citizens' Rights Movement) maintained their support, and SHELI did not obtain enough support to pass the 1 percent threshold.

Six percent of the voters were undecided — giving no party preference. Most of these voted Likud in 1981.

A new phenomenon which emerged was the claim by 6 percent of those polled that they will not vote on July 23. These were generally people disappointed with all the parties, again mostly drawn from previous Likud supporters.

These non-votes were not included in the calculation of the support for the various parties. Therefore, caution must be exercised in interpreting the poll results. Though Labour's lead was substantial, a significant number of voters were still undecided or thinking of not voting.

In 1981 large numbers of such voters streamed back to the Likud.

It should also be noted that the survey ended an hour before the results of the contest between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and former Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon.

Treasury Plans No Further Funds to Settlements

TA181118 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by the economic affairs correspondent]

[Text] At this stage, the Treasury has no plans to allocate additional funds for establishing settlements beyond the Green Line in the months left until the elections, authoritative Treasury sources have stated.

According to Finance Ministry circles, all the decisions of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs to this effect have no financial basis, and it is hard to believe that new settlements will really be established before the upcoming elections.

Nevertheless, the settling institutions may theoretically distribute funds in the state budget in a different manner, and establish new settlements with funds originally assigned to financially solidify the position of recent settlements. In practice, however, there are some settlements with a very small population of several families, and a further cut in the number of settlers would be almost unfeasible and would certainly not be financially justified. The Finance Ministry has been pressured in the last few weeks to allocate funds exceeding the state budget law. However, although the Treasury has so far withstood those pressures, they are expected to continue after the holiday.

'Arafat Aide Urges PLO To Join Peace Negotiations

JN171205 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1130 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, an aide to terrorist leader Yasir 'Arafat, has told reporters in Kuwait that King Husayn of Jordan may join the Middle East peace march. He urged the so-called PLO to join the king so as to play a role in this field. He warned that if King Husayn joins the peace march while the PLO remains divided as it is today, it will not be able to play any role in these negotiations.

In an interview with the REUTER correspondent in Amman, Yasir 'Arafat's aide Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, said that the dialogue between the PLO and King Husayn is a positive step. He said that the PLO dissidents, who are supported by Syria and Libya, have no political future. He said that those who fired at the PLO fighters cannot be cooperated with in any form.

Al-Wazir accused Syria and Libya of planning to destroy the PLO as an independent political power and said that Syria wants to control the PLO. He added that Syria drove the Palestinians out of Lebanon in order to act freely there. He said that about 4,500 pro-'Arafat fighters and their families remained in the Damascus area. They are subjected to the supervision of the Syrian security forces. He said that Syria does not allow the PLO to pay the salaries of these fighters.

Abu Jihad indicated that the Syrians had attempted to confiscate $1.6 million which the PLO sent to Damascus. The PLO, however, stopped the checks at the appropriate time.

Embassy Protests to Finland Over PLO Reaction

TA181047 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Apr 84 p 2

[Report from Scandinavia by Eliyahu Zehavi]

[Excerpt] The Israeli Embassy in Finland has sent a letter of protest to the Finnish Foreign Ministry in the wake of 'Arafat's reaction to the terrorist attack in Jerusalem on 2 April. Speaking on behalf of 'Arafat, the PLO representative in Helsinki a few days ago sent his wishes for a speedy recovery to 14 Finnish tourists who were injured in the PLO attack in Jerusalem, and noted that the latter had run into exchanges of fire between the Palestinian fighters and the Zionist occupation forces.

'Arafat also noted that his organization had in the past warned tourists against visiting Israel because of the danger this entails.

The Israeli Embassy protested against the PLO support for the terrorist attack in Jerusalem, and over the fact that "the PLO did not denounce or express its reservations about this operation." The Finnish Foreign Ministry later expressed sorrow over the incident in which Finnish citizens were hurt.

Tension in U.S.-Jordan Relations Reported

TA181027 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 18 Apr 84 p 4

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that there has recently been tension in relations between Jordan and the United States, reflected, among other things, in the Jordanian media attacks

against Washington's policy. No explanation has been given for this phenomenon.

Our correspondent points out that King Husayn came back disappointed from the tripartite summit meeting in Washington with President Reagan and President Mubarak, particularly in view of the pressures Egypt and the United States exerted on him not to create difficult conditions for Yasir 'Arafat's participation in negotiations with Israel. There have also been reports in Amman that the tension between King Husayn and Crown Prince Hasan has resumed.

The Jordanian Army has been in a state of alert in the past few days, and no plausible explanation has been given for this phenomenon.

IDF Confirms All Bus Hijackers Killed
TA181008 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by the defense correspondent]

[Text] Tel Aviv — An Israel Defence Forces spokesman last night said two of the terrorists in last week's bus hijacking were killed outright in the assault on the bus by troops at dawn last Friday. The two others were mortally wounded and died on the way to the hospital, he said.

Press photographs reputedly showing two people being led from the bus by soldiers were probably pictures of Arab passengers who were not involved in the hijacking, he said.

THE NEW YORK TIMES carried a story by Israel correspondent David Shipler reporting that two of the terrorists had been taken prisoner.

Ambassador Denies Military Links to South Africa
TA160702 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Apr 84 p 3

[Excerpts] Israel's Ambassador to South Africa Eliyahu Lankin last night categorically denied a report in *THE SUNDAY TIMES* of London on close Israeli-South African military cooperation, calling it "tendentious, a fantasy that I have no doubt is not objective, a distorted picture."

The allegations of close but covert links between South Africa in military, intelligence and trade enterprises were published yesterday in *THE SUNDAY TIMES*.

In a two-page article by James Adams, the paper's defence correspondent, based on his book *The Unnatural Alliance* (to be published this week), he describes Israel as "perhaps the closest ally of South Africa, a nation which continues to scandalize world opinion with its racialist policies." Adams claims that, although the true extent of the relationship between the two countries has been "a well-kept secret," it has now emerged as "a major new force on the world scene."

In Israel on home leave Ambassador Lankin told *THE JERUSALEM POST* that "it appears Adams relied on information more full of lies than truth."

On the military side, Adams claims that there are around 300 Israeli officers and men in South Africa helping to train soldiers, sailors and airmen. "At the same time, serving South Africans are based in Israel, particularly at the port of Haifa, where they are trained on equipment purchased by the Pretoria government."

There is also, he writes, "considerable sharing of intelligence." South Africa has in fact adopted many of Israel's tactics in countering the terrorist threat and Israel's success with the PLO "encouraged South Africa to invade Angola at the beginning of the year," he maintains.

Ambassador Lankin denied that there are Israeli security personnel training South African soldiers; that there are government-to- government contracts; that South Africa is a joint partner in the Lavi project; that there are 25,000 Israelis in South Africa; and other details in the Adams report.

There are maybe "half as many as that" said Lankin, adding that they are yordim (emigrants), the way there are yordim in Germany, the U.S. or Adam's own England. There may be yordim working in an arms factory in England — but nobody sent them to work there and nobody questions that."

June Visit by South Africa's P.W. Botha 'Likely'
TA181004 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Apr 84 p 1

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv — South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha is likely to visit Israel during a European tour in June, South African sources said this week.

Foreign Ministry sources in Jerusalem said last night that they knew nothing of the visit.

The South African news agency SAPA reported this week that a visit to Israel is likely, given what it described as the extent of the two countries economic and military links. Botha, a former defence minister, is considered the architect of South Africa's arms production and sales programme.

The last visit to Israel by a South African leader was by then Prime Minister John Vorster in 1976.

Government Permits Druze To Cross Into Syria
TA181007 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] Qiryat Shemona — Three Druse women from the Golan Heights were allowed by Israeli authorities to cross into Syria through Al-Qunaytirah this week. They were the first Druse allowed to do so since Israeli law was imposed on the Heights in 1982.

The women, who travelled with their children, were allowed to rejoin their husbands who illegally crossed the border several months ago.

Syrian Troops Reinforcing Confrontation Line With IDF

JN160730 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 16 Apr 84

[Text] Syrian sources in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' have confirmed reports that Syrian forces are reinforcing their positions along the confrontation line with Israel.

These sources say that a number of T-72 and C-60 tanks, guns, and missiles have been introduced to the area controlled by the Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' to counter what the sources describe as a planned Israeli attack. Military and political sources in Damascus stress that Syria does not expect a war with Israel.

IDF Denies Palestinian Charges of Ansar Torture

TA180957 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] Tel Aviv — The IDF Sunday described Palestinian charges of torture in an Israeli prison camp in southern Lebanon last year as "outright lies and propaganda."

A group of Palestinians released from the Ansar camp, who arrived in Amman, on Saturday accused the Israelis of murdering and torturing prisoners.

The IDF spokesman said representatives of the International Red Cross had constantly been in Ansar.

"The Red Cross kept a regular watch on this camp, unlike any prison camps in Arab countries where prisoners are kept incommunicado and are tortured for years," the spokesman said.

"It is interesting that the Palestinian terrorists chose to make their charges now, a few days after their murderous action against a civilian bus in Israel and their cowardly atttack two weeks ago on civilians in Jerusalem," he added.

Mubarak Has Not Replied to Shamir Message

TA181045 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Niva Lanir]

[Text] Israel's ambassador to Egypt, Moshe Sason, has recently conferred with U.S. Ambassador to Cairo Nicholas Veliotes and told the latter that the Egyptian president has not replied to the message Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sent him on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the peace treaty. Sason argued that the fact that there has been no response to the message attested to the deteriorated relations between the two countries. Veliotes replied that the Egyptian contention is that it has now adopted a policy of nonintervention toward Israel. In other words, until after the elections are held in Israel, there will not be any improvement in bilateral relations; the Egyptian ambassador will not return to Tel Aviv; and the freeze on normalization will not be thawed.

Boats Denied Anchorage off Egypt's Coral Island

TA172115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The Egyptian authorities are not allowing Israeli boats to anchor off the beach at Coral Island. Elat Mayor Rafi Hochman told our correspondent in the south Moti Amir that since yesterday the Egyptians have not allowed Israeli boats to approach Coral Island in the wake of the incident last week.

The Egyptians vigorously complained that Israeli youths had trespassed into their territorial waters and removed a sunken yacht. By orders of the Egyptian consul, licenses to anchor at Coral Island are not being renewed.

Cairo Authorities 'Aim' at Israeli Cultural Center

TA181043 Tel Aviv DAVAR In Hebrew 18 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by Yehoshu'a Tadmor]

[Text] The Egyptian authorities have in the last few weeks been "taking aim" at the Israeli Cultural Center in Cairo. Senior Egyptian elements have been urging President Husni Mubarak to close down the center in the wake of internal and pan-Arab pressures.

The center has enjoyed a certain measure of success among many Egyptian students and researchers over the last 2 years. The center has become a permanent target for criticism by the Egyptian opposition papers, which have recently been given considerably free rein.

These papers seem unwilling to drop the issue and are demanding the center's closure.

The issue has apparently been discussed again recently by the Egyptian top echelon, but a final decision was put off.

There was also a U.S. request to the Cairo government to refrain from rushing into things which would seriously affect the Camp David accords.

The tension over this issue appears to have eased in the last few days, although there is no doubt that the Egyptian opposition is anxiously awaiting any publication by the center's staff, and particularly by its director Professor Shim'on Shamir, to raise the issue once again.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Sweden's Bodstrom, Others

LD180839 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] At the Presidency Headquarters, Brother President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN secretary general, received Brother Bachir Rouis, supply member of the Politburo and minister of information, who reported to the president about his mission in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The brother president also received Sister Z'Hor Ounissi, Central Committee member and minister of social protection, who reported to him about her mission in Jordan.

At the Presidency Headquarters, President Chadli Bendjedid received Brother Mohamed Cherif Kherroubi, Central Committee member and minister of national education, who reported to him about his mission in the Sultanate of Oman.

Yesterday President Bendjedid received Mr Lennart Bodstrom, Swedish minister of foreign affairs, who is on an official visit to our country. The meeting was attended by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Politburo member and minister of foreign affairs, and the ambassadors of the two countries.

Bendjedid Receives Kuwaiti Foreign Minister

LD171052 Algiers APS in English 1002 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Algiers, 17-4-84 (APS) — Kuwait Vice-Prime, Foreign Affairs and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad arrived here yesterday. He told the press in a statement at the airport that he answered an invitation of his Algerian counterpart Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi.

President Chadli received the special envoy, who handed him a message from Amir Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. Talks were later held in the Foreign Ministry between the two delegations to examine bilateral relations and the current developments prevailing on the Arab scene in general and the situation in the Gulf in particular.

President Receives Mauritanian Presidential Envoy

LD180813 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Yesterday President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN secretary general, received Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation and special envoy of the Mauritanian president, at the Presidency Headquarters. The Mauritanian envoy conveyed a message from President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala to President Chadli Bendjedid.

LIBYA

Responses to Shooting at People's Bureau in London

Foreign Liaison Committee Statement

LD172149 Tripoli Voice of the Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2020 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli 17 Apr — The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison issued a statement regarding the attack launched by British police on the People's Bureau of the Jamahiriyah in London:

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has issued a statement regarding the attack launched by British police on the Jamahiriyah People's Bureau in London. Here is the text:

Information became available to the People's Bureau of the Jamahiriyah in London which was confirmed by the British Foreign Office when the Bureau contacted it regarding the staging by elements hostile to the people's authority of a demonstration outside the People's Bureau. The Bureau asked the Foreign Office to intervene in order to prevent the staging of this demonstration out of the feeling of concern for the efforts being made in order to improve relations between the two countries.

The British ambassador was also summoned on the night of Tuesday, 17 April 1984 [meaning the night preceding Tuesday — Monday night], by the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and was informed of the danger of such a demonstration taking place and the danger of provisions of protection and security by British authorities to those staging the demonstration.

The People's Foreign Liaison Committee warned against Britain using its territories as a basis for action hostile to the interests of the people of the Jamahiriyah and its security.

It placed responsibility on the British Government for the consequential results of the direction adopted by it, which makes its territories an arena for an open conflict, the effects of which will have direct repercussions on the interests of the Libyan Arab people and the security of those working at the Jamahiriyah's People's Bureau in London.

On the morning of Tuesday, 17 April 1984, the British police tightened the siege around the Jamahiriyah People's Bureau and arrested two staff members, one of whom has diplomatic immunity. Then it escalated its provocation by arresting anyone entering or leaving the Bureau, violating international norms and conventions.

Following this grave development of events, the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison once again summoned the British ambassador and demanded from him the following:

— Lifting of the siege around the People's Bureau of the Jamahiriyah in London;

— The release of those arrested;

— Banning of the hostile demonstration.

It had also warned him against the grave consequences of any storming of the People's Bureau, which would be considered as an act of aggression directed against the freedom of the Arab Libyan people, who would retaliate by all means.

Despite all these warnings, the British authorities, in full cooperation, permitted these hostile elements to stage their demonstration.

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison wishes to clarify the following facts:

First: The British Government has encouraged a group of its agents that comprises individuals from Middle East countries — and this was admitted by its authorities — to stage a hostile demonstration, making available for them conditions of protection and freedom of movement, thus making factors of tension move and develop in the direction of hostile escalation.

Second: British authorities have carried out a savage action that contradicts international traditions and laws. The British Foreign Office has summoned the acting secretary of the People's Bureau and another one of the Bureau's members. They were detained, and their fate is still unknown. This is in addition to the arrest of three other members of the Bureau.

Third: British police stormed an Arab school which contained young children and innocent students studying their lessons. This action indicates nothing but barbarism, brutality, and the racism by which the British police take discriminative measures against innocent Libyan citizens. The oppressive measures adopted by the British authorities have reached the level of stopping water and food from reaching those working in the Bureau and detaining the civilian passengers on Libyan aircraft, which contradict the fundamental bases of international morality and traditions.

Fourth: British authorities are continuing to practice provocations and hostile actions against Libyan students and those who work in the People's Bureau. On the other hand, they offer every protection and encouragement to the movements of their agents. By this behavior, the British authorities are, actually, only protecting criminals who oppose the authority of the people, arecondemned by the national courts of justice, and are wanted internationally. Their descriptions were reported to the international police in Britain itself.

Fifth: The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison demands the handing over of these criminals who are internationally wanted and for whose protection the British authorities do not hesitate in using military helicopters and the most sophisticated means for confronting the People's Bureau, administered by a People's Committee whose duty is to strengthen relations and deepen them among peoples, a matter which the British authorities are with all their arrogance and barbarity working to destroy with all conceivable means that aim at realizing this principle.

Finally, the Committee now has information to the effect that the British police are now preparing to storm the People's Bureau. The Committee warns of the consequences and places full responsibility for it on the British Government. At a time when the Committee is anxious not to escalate the situation, an act of this magnitude will not pass without reply from the Libyan Arab people, who know how to avenge themselves while they are in a position of defending their dignity and existence.

UK Government 'Arranged' Incident

LD172025 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1920 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] London 17 Apr (JANA) — The British Government has committed a serious precedent in the history of relations between countries, and explicitly violated the natural framework and all the natural limits and privileges which are guaranteed by international law concerning establishing and constructing the framework of international relations.

Through previously prepared arrangements and measures, the British Government employed a group of agents who belong to different nationalities and marched them toward the Libyan Arab People's Bureau before noon today (?as a pretext) for storming this Bureau and assaulting those who work there by the British police.

There is much evidence and proof that this terrible action was arranged by the British Government itself. It comes within the framework of the hatred campaign and the persecution operations against the Libyan Arab revolutionary force in the British arena. The way was paved for this during the middle of last March by implementing a wide operation of chasing and harassing the Libyan students and patients who are receiving treatment in British hospitals.

The most prominent evidence concerning the armed assault operation by the British police against the Libyan Arab Bureau and the detention of a number of its staff is this huge mass of policemen and intelligence personnel, who besieged the Bureau and directed their gunfire toward its windows and doors, in addition to using a brigade of fierce police dogs. It has also been proved that the clique of hired agents incited by the British police included a number of Pakistanis and non-Libyan Arabs, in addition to some British Jews whose faces are familiar and who were recognized from short distance. There is also evidence that some of these people have already received payments from the British authorities to participate in this disgraceful action, which indicates aggressive intentions directed against the Arab Libyan people by the British Government.

UK Police 'Storm' School

LD171946 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] London, 17 Apr (JANA) — British police stormed a Jamahiriyah school in London and terrified the pupils while they were receiving lessons during a study period. The British police

violated the sanctity of the Jamahiriyah school unexpectedly while hireling agents of various nationalities organized by the British police stormed the Libyan Arab People's Bureau, opened fire on those working there, and (?killed) a number of them.

The JANA correspondent in London said that the British police moved the pupils out of their classrooms after scattering their books and school equipment. They then began to search them in a provocative way while insulting and swearing at the teachers at this school.

In a similar barbaric act, the British police arrested at London's Heathrow Airport six Libyan citizens who were intending to return to the Jamahiriyah. The British authorities did not explain this arbitrary and conspiratorial arrest of Libyan citizens. It is an established fact that these repressive practices are the essence of the planned British action aimed at storming the Libyan Arab People's Bureau and violating the sanctity of the Jamahiriyah school in the British capital.

British 'Aggression' Scored

LD180042 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2206 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] It seems that the British Government is trying to escalate the situation by cutting the fine thread which connects British-Arab relations. This is especially so with regard to the Arab revolution force which adopts an anti-Zionist, anti-imperialist, antireactionary, and antiapartheid policy, the force for which the Jamahiriyah constitutes a clear landmark along a committed revolutionary national line.

For a long time the British Government has provoked the national revolutionary force represented by the Jamahiriyah in the Arab homeland. This is in order to damage its image in the face of international public opinion and, under cover of a thick smokescreen of black propaganda, to implement the schemes of U.S. imperialism for making the whole Arab zone into an imperialist-American-Zionist swamp by striking and liquidating the uniting nationalist revolutionary movement that is led by the Jamahiriyah.

In this context responsibility for the explosions which shook London were put on the shoulders of the Jamahiriyah, which resulted in the expulsion of a number of Libyan students from Britain and the detention of several others. One must bear in mind that the Jamahiriyah has no interest in such explosions, which might have been implemented by the Irish revolutionaries or arranged by British intelligence in order to put responsibility for them on the shoulders of the Jamahiriyah and thus create excuses and justifications for expelling Libyan Arabs from Britain.

In this context also came the escalated British aggression, which contradicts the simplest moral values as well as international traditions and laws, of directly and explicitly attacking the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in London. The British police, supported by helicopters and agents of British intelligence, stormed the Libyan Arab People's Bureau and detained a number of its staff.

The Libyan Arab People's Bureau, according to international laws and traditions, is an extension of Libyan Arab territories. Violating it in such a brutal way is as good as an explicit and direct attack against Libyan Arab territories.

Therefore, our Libyan Arab people reserve the right to defend their land and to adopt all firm and deterring measures which will guarantee to the people the right of sovereignty as approved by international traditions and laws. This will be internationally justified because it is a legitimate self-defense action.

It is not heroism honoring the old and sick British lion for Britain to assault the Libyan Arab People's Bureau and its staff. We think that it is also not a new conquest for expanding the territory of the British Empire. But it is, under any criterion, a cowardly, mean action which indicates the black, racist, hostile hatred which Britain feels toward the Arabs and which reveals the British apartheid complex toward everything which is non-British.

Since Britain is the one who began the aggression and is the one who directs the fires of its hatred against the Arabs to this extent, then we, the Arabs, are not so foolish and naive as to think that the black British criminal file has been completely closed on the Arabs. There are long historical accounts which should be closed with Britain. As a result of the dirty British colonialist role in usurping Palestine, dividing the Arab homeland, planting the wedges of regionalism to stop its future unity, stabbing the Arab body with its nails of cartels and exploitation, and supporting the Zionist aggressive policy against the Arab nation, we, the Arabs, are still suffering the bitterness of dispersion, pain, and estrangement. This is still happening even now, and the black British criminal file is still continuing against the Arabs. The attack against the Libyan Arab People's Bureau is only an extension of the historic British criminalism against the Arab nation.

The Libyan Arab people will not swallow this extremely bitter insult. They will never keep quiet about this mean British crime. The people are reserving all their legitimate rights to adopt deterrent means and measures which will (?cripple) Britain, restrict it, and force it to respect the Arab nation. There are open wounds in the sick British body. We, the Libyan Arabs, can exert pressure on these wounds. We can make the whole world into a great battlefield for tearing the limbs of Britain and liquidating its hidden colonialist influence and presence in many parts of the world. Let Britain know its size and that it is in a glass house and so should not throw stones at anybody. It has no independence. It even has no sovereignty over its territories. It is only a satellite to U.S. imperialism.

The United States intentionally built nuclear missiles on British territories in spite of the British people as a confirmation that Britain does not have the right of national sovereignty. If Britain in reality is just an insignificant dwarf and only a tail of America, then it should know exactly its limits in dealing with others, and particularly with the Libyan Arab people. The Libyan Arab people accept nothing but combating U.S. imperialism as an

equal. As for tails and dwarfs such as Britain, they do not cost us in actual fact anything more than a bullet of mercy.

We know how to keep Britain busy and how to squeeze its bleeding wound by escalating our revolutionary alliance with the Irish revolutionaries, with the African strugglers against the apartheid regimes which were established by Britain, with the Palestinian revolution against the Zionist entity which was also established by Britain, and by blowing up all British cartel interests in the Arab homeland and by closing the doors of Arab markets to British goods and products. Our people, whose mettle Britain realized when it was kicked out of the Libyan Arab land in Tobruq on 28 March 1970, this people of ours is able to make a firm revolutionary reply and hit back twice as hard. It represents Arab dignity and Arab pride according to the rule: We are the enemies of those who make themselves our enemies and we are the friends of those who make themselves our friends.

GUNT Claims Responsibility for French Plane Crash

LD172042 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 17 Apr (JANA) — Mr Goukouni Oueddei, GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] president, announced that his government forces were responsible for shooting down a French Jaguar aircraft yesterday which was with a squadron of French military planes undertaking a mission within the region of 16° latitude established by the French Government. Mr Goukouni Oueddei was talking in a press conference in Tripoli today at noon.

Mr Goukouni added: The mine explosions which killed the nine French soldiers and the destruction of the Jaguar aircraft yesterday do not mean that there is a direct conflict between us and the French. However, we would like to prove to public opinion that we desire to solve the issue of Chad through negotiations which will result in the eviction of the colonialist forces from Chad.

He said: If France risks moving its forces against us, then we will be ready for this. We will defend ourselves. We have started to transfer the war to the heart of Paris, where anger is brewing in the hearts of the French against the Mitterrand government because of its involvement in a war against the people of Chad and its unified legitimate government. He expressed his confidence that the price that the French have paid for the involvement of their government in this war will lead to unhappy consequences for the French Government due to actions by the French people themselves.

President Goukouni Oueddei announced to journalists that the GUNT National Liberation Army will not restrict itself to a land war. It is now preparing for the graduation of a group of Chadian pilots who will be the nucleus of a Chadian air force. Therefore, we will widen the liberation war against the mutiny in Ndjamena and the battle against the new colonialists. President Goukouni Oueddei, in his press conference, talked about the American role in Chad. He explained that the U.S. Government has used France as a tool to interfere in Chad. It is trying to establish its agent Hissein Habre in Ndjamena in order to make Chad a base for striking the progressive countries in the region.

Kuwaiti Deputy Premier Visits Tripoli, Meets Leaders

LD171847 Tripoli JANA in English 1710 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 17, April 17, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Kuwaiti deputy premier, minister of foreign affairs and information, Shaykh Sabah Al-Ahmad, this afternoon arrived in Tripoli on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiryah.

The Kuwaiti deputy prime minister gave a statement to the JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY in which he praised the relationship of brotherhood and cooperation existing between the Arab peoples in the Jamahiriyah and Kuwait.

He then said: I hope these relations would be further developed and consolidated, in the benefit of the two countries.

Meeting With At-Turayki

LD171849 Tripoli JANA in English 1713 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 17, April 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki this afternoon met with the deputy premier, minister of foreign affairs and information in Kuwait, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad.

The meeting was focused on the present Arab situation, ways and means necessary to repulse the Zionist enemy, international issues and promotion of cooperation existing between the Jamahiriyah and Kuwait.

Meeting With Leader

LD172228 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution yesterday [17 April] received Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs and minister of information.

SUDAN

Hand Grenade Explodes, Kills 2 in South

JN171625 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Juba, 17 Apr (SUNA) — Two people were killed and three others were wounded when a USSR-manufactured hand grenade when 'Abd an-Nur ar-Rud tried to pull the safety pin of a hand grenade and throw it at the restaurant's customers. He and another Chadian, Ahmad Abu Shanab were killed. Three Equatorial citizens were slightly wounded.

A responsible source said that the first victim, 'Abd an-Nur ar-Rud, is from Nyala, Darfur. He was known for trading in weapons, carried Chadian passport No 677177 issued in Kinshasa [as received] in 1982, and was sentenced to imprisonment in Juba last year on charges of possessing and trading in weapons in the southern regions.

TUNISIA

Report Cites Guiga Culpability for 3 Jan Events

LD171408 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The organ of the Destourian Socialist Party, *AL-AMAL*, today published the full text of the report prepared by the national investigation commission charged with defining the responsibilities and ascertaining the various motives and reasons behind the events of 3 January. The paper published this important document on six pages.

After reviewing the legal and constitutional procedures which the head of state followed in setting up this commission, and the list of witnesses who were heard by the commission during its investigations, the report told of the painful events which took place in various parts of the country — demonstrations, acts of violence, disturbances, and looting, as well as the violation of sacred places and the plundering of private and public properties.

The report also dealt with the behavior of the security forces during the events following the removal of the subsidies on cereals by the compensation fund. It pointed out the reasons why the security organ did not carry out its duties during the events, attributing this to the rottenness of the situation inside the Interior Ministry and the clear misbehavior noted in the administration of this fundamental organ.

This misbehavior involved dividing the security organ and (?disbanding) leading units in an unstudied manner, and removing qualified people while employing supporters and friends. Ethics were disregarded and influence exploited. Furthermore, a quite negative role was played by the police command in Tunis, to an extent that people were wondering whether they could expect any protection from forces in the capital.

The report also contained two tables, the first devoted to a review of the list of subordinates of former Interior Minister Driss Guiga who were influential and who used to enjoy special benefits in addition to their monthly salaries, the second showing precisenumbers of the victims who fell during the events: 89 people dead and 590 injured — all civilians; 348 members of the security forces injured.

The report said that the former interior minister made no move to control the situation. In fact, he went so far as to not inform the president of the Republic or the prime minister of the extent of the tension caused by the disturbances. He also made dubious decisions, including the conclusion of a deal for purchasing security supplies from Brazil in return for bribes from the supplier. Moreover, he issued orders to security units not to use their weapons in any way to resist the demonstrators, and he removed weapons from security members. He did not take precautions necessary for preventing disorder in the capital, especially on 3 January.

The report pointed out that some of the popular demonstrations staged in support of the president on January, following the announcement by the president regarding the cancellation of the increase on the prices of cereals, were instigated by voices calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali. Some of the processions gathered outside the Interior Ministry building, calling: The people are with you, Mr Guiga. Driss Guiga's sympathy with the masses then became apparent, as shown by the way he stood at a window in his office looking at the masses and saluting them, waving with a victory sign, and pointing to them to go to the presidential Carthage Palace. He also took a personal initiative by sending an emissary to the prime minister to make him resign.

The report also spoke about shortcomings at various levels of the Interior Ministry and the reasons behind the ministry's failure to shoulder its responsibilities at that time in not safeguarding the country's security.

KENYA

President Moi Receives U.S. House Speaker O'Neill

EA171536 Nairobi KNA in English 1416 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Nairobi: President Daniel arap Moi today at State House, Nairobi, held discussions with the visiting speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Mr Thomas O'Neill. Their discussions centred on bilateral and international issues.

Present during the talks were, among others, the vice-president and minister for home affairs, Mr Mwai Kibaki; the foreign minister, Mr Elijah Mwangale; the finance minister, Professor George Saitoti; the speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Fred Mati; and the chief secretary, Mr Jeremiah Kiereini. Mr O'Neill's eleven-man congressional delegation and the American ambassador to Kenya, Mr Gerald Thomas, also attended the talks.

'Arafat Envoy Delivers Message for President Moi

EA180859 Nairobi KNA in English 1740 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Nairobi — A personal message for H.E. the President, Daniel arap Moi, from the chairman of PLO, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, was today handed over to the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, by special envoy of Mr 'Arafat, Mr Salman al-Harifi.

Receiving the message, Mr Mwangale assured the envoy that Kenya's stand on the Palestinian issue has remained the same, which is that the people of Palestine must have a state of their own while the states in the region live in secure and internationally recognized borders.

Responding, Mr Salman said there is understanding between PLO and Egypt and for this reason PLO had worked hard to have Egypt readmitted into the Islamic Conference and eventually back into the Arab League.

The meeting was attended by the charge d'affaires of the PLO mission in Nairobi, Mr 'Ali Nasir; Dr E.I. Maluki, senior deputy secretary for political affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and other senior officials of the ministry.

TANZANIA

Aid Needed To Prevent 'Widespread Famine'

EA180854 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Reports from Dar es Salaam say that Tanzania will need food worth 100 million dollars from international donors within the next 75 days to prevent widespread famine and mass starvation in its central, western and northern provinces.

Speaking to a budgetary meeting of the National Economic Planning Council, Agriculture Minister Mr John Machunda said money was short and the food situation in drought-stricken areas of Tanzania was alarming. Mr Machunda has added that even if the food arrives in time before June, the government will have to spend over one billion dollars to combat food shortages for the following year, adding that Tanzania did not have this financial ability. Up to 1 million people could be affected by the famine.

Tanzania is one of the 24 African countries facing famine because of a 2-year continental drought.

UGANDA

Cattle-Rustlers Said To Kill 'Many People' in East

EA180848 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Kampala: Reports from Kampala say cattle-rustlers armed with automatic rifles have killed many people in eastern Uganda and made thousands homeless in recent weeks.

The Ugandan Army magazine *MKOMBOZI* said that the rustlers had attacked many villages, hacking to death many women and children. It said as many as 10,000 people had fled their homes.

In one of the most detailed reports on the situation to emerge in recent weeks, the magazine said that those who have escaped speak of rustlers who were well-organized and equipped with automatic machine guns.

Uganda and Kenya have said that they are carrying out a joint military crackdown on rustling in the areas along their border, but few details of the operation have been made public since it was launched in late February or early March.

MKOMBOZI said that the rustlers could be remnants of the army of ousted dictator Idi Amin who fled to neighboring countries and have regrouped, or other bandits together with members of the Karamajong tribe, for whom rustling is a way of life.

The magazine said that thousands of people had converged on Soroti, some 320 km northeast of Kampala, and were in urgent need of food, shelter, and water.

Prime Minister Visits DPRK, Meets With Leaders

For Pyongyang reports on the visit of Ugandan Prime Minister Otema Alimadi to the DPRK, including his talks with DPRK President Kim Il-song and Premier Kang Song-san, see the North Korea section of the 17 April Asia & Pacific *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

CAMEROON

Coupists To Face Military Tribunal 'Next Week'

AB171720 Paris AFP in French 1650 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Yaounde, 17 Apr (AFP) — All the people — both civilian and military — connected with the recent 6 April abortive coup in Cameroon will appear before the Yaounde Military Tribunal next week, official sources disclosed in Yaounde today. After the completion of the investigations currently going on, the commission of inquiry will present its report to the military tribunal which will then use the process of "direct writ of summons," the same sources explained. The accused persons will then appear "immediately before the military for trial and punishment in accordance with the [words indistinct] President Paul Biya," the same sources specified.

The process of "direct writ of summons" helps to shorten considerably the deadline for an accused person to appear before the tribunal. It especially helps in informing the accused person that he is to appear before the court without having to pass through an examining magistrate, informed sources disclosed. The use of this process was raised these past days by Cameroonian Armed Forces Minister Gilbert Andze Tsoungui, who disclosed that "most of the civilians connected with the coup attempt have been arrested." He also explained that the investigations will be completed this week. It has been explained at the Ministry of Justice in Yaounde that the civilians who are connected with the coup attempt can also appear before a military tribunal "in accordance with the laws of Cameroon."

CHAD

Iraqi Government Delegation Arrives in Ndjamena

AB172205 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] A delegation made up of 12 representatives of the Iraqi Government arrived in Ndjamena yesterday. The delegation, which is headed by Dr Bahjat Kamil 'Abd al-Latif, director general for cultural affairs, will be in Chad for 1 week. During their stay, the Iraqi officials will discuss terms of a cultural and technical agreement with Chadian officials. The agreement, which is scheduled to be signed on Saturday, will be the fourth to be signed between Chad and Iraq. Three agreements had earlier been signed between the two countries since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Ndjamena and Baghdad. The two countries had in fact signed an agreement for economic cooperation, a trade accord, and a technical cooperation agreement under which Iraq will send agricultural and animal husbandry technicians. The agreement on cultural and technical cooperation has already been put into practice with the sending of several (?dozens) of Chadians to Iraq. For the 1983-1984 university session, 25 Chadian students have been admitted into Iraqi universities. It was this morning at about 1100 that the Iraqi officials were received by Gouara Lassou, minister of higher education, research and (?sports) [passage indistinct]. Earlier the Iraqi delegation was received at 1000 by (Lechel Tudo), permanent secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The delegation will continue its contacts with the various ministerial departments and it will leave Ndjamena next Tuesday.

BENIN

Angolan Delivers Message to President Kerekou

MB171735 Luanda ANGOP in French 1330 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Cotonou, 17 Apr (ANGOP) — Armindo Espirito Santo, Angolan ambassador to Nigeria, was received in audience in Cotonou last Friday by Mathieu Kerekou, the Benin president, to whom he delivered a personal message from Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. During the audience, the two men discussed the situation in Southern Africa in light of the latest developments in the region.

GHANA

Aliens in Nigeria Without Permits To Be Arrested

AB171850 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The current deportation of illegal aliens from Nigeria has taken a new turn. The Federal Military Government has now empowered all security agencies including soldiers to arrest any alien who is unable to produce his or her resident permit on request. This has thrown all foreigners, especially Ghanaians, into panic. Our correspondent said the Nigerian security forces are concentrating on the search for illegal aliens at Agege and Ijora, both suburbs of Lagos, where the majority of the residents are Ghanaians. In two seperate raids armed policemen arrested more than 500 people, including Nigerians, who could not explain their presence at these places. According to our correspondent, there are over 10,000 Ghanaians staying illegally in ghettos at Ijora and Agege.

The Ghana Government decision not to extend the same level of assistance to the current deportees was received with mixed feelings in Lagos. Most of the Ghanaians our correspondent talked to said they will either come to Ghana by road, boat, or canoe to avoid the confiscation of their traveling documents.

Meanwhile, Nigerian newspapers have reported that the Nigerian authorities have sent a strong protest note to the American Government about the alleged maltreatment of Nigerians in the United States.

Communique on Algerian Official's Visit Issued

LD171122 Algiers APS in English 1005 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Algiers, 17-04-84 (APS) — An Algero-Ghanean joint communique sanctioned the work visit of Mr. Abderrazak Bouhara, member of the C.C. permanent secretariat, in charge of external relations in Ghana from 09 to 11 April (?During) this [word indistinct] Mr. Abderrazak Bouhara and his delegation were audienced by the president of the Provisional National Defense Council (P.N.D.C.) and Ghanean head of state, Mr. John Jerry [name order as received] Rawlings. Regarding the international situation, the joint communique pointed out:

"The two delegation expressed their legitimate concern before the deterioration of tension in the world and notably in Africa and the Middle-East".

"As concerns Africa, the two parties reaffirmed their indefectible attachment to OAU principles and objectives.

"The F.L.N. Party and the P.N.D.C. considered that the situation prevailing in North-west Africa, constitutes a threat for peace and security in the region. They vigorously deplored the intransigence of the Moroccan Kingdom, contravening then to the 104 resolution of the 19th OAU summit, appealing Morocco and the Polisario Front to start direct negotiations".

"On another turn, the two sides reiterated their unconditional support to the just cause of Western Sahara for the exercise of its inalienable right to self determination and independence".

"The two delegations stood in favour the total withdrawal of the foreign troops in Chad, for an exclusively Chadian and African solution of the problem through the negotiation based on the national reconciliation and the preservation of the territorial integrity.

"The F.L.N. Party and the P.N.D.C. denounced one more time the apartheid regime and reaffirmed their solidarity with SWAPO, unique and legitimate representative of the Namibian people and ensured the South African people with their unconditional support under the leadership of its real representative the ANC.

"Refering to the situation in the Middle-East, the two delegations are convinced that the only issues remains the recognition to the Palestinian people of its inalienable right to the edification of its independent state on its own territoy under the PLO, sponsorship and the total and unconditional evacuation of all the occupied territories including Jerusalem".

"As to Lebanon, the two delegations condemned any attempt of partition of this country and appealed for a peaceful solution founded on the unity and the territorial integrity, the national reconciliation and the withdrawal of all the foreign forces.

"Before the dangerous evolution of the world situation, the two delegations reaffirmed their attachement to the non-alignement ideals and principles they consider as a determinant factor and instrument for the peoples liberation, the settlement of international problems and the safeguard of peace.

"The two parties are convinced that answers to peoples' aspirations are in a radical transformation of international economic relations through the establishment of a more equitable international economic order".

"The F.L.N. Party and the P.N.D.C. delegations are determined to reinforce the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, Zionism, apartheid, racism and all the forms of domination and reaffirmed their solidarity and their support to national liberation movements and all the just causes in the world".

GUINEA

Traore Denies Polisario Invited to OAU Summit

AB171529 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Colonel Diara Traore, the prime minister, returned to Conakry at 1100 after his long tour of eight African countries. The leader of the Guinean Government was welcomed on arrival by members of the Guinean Government, while a company of the National Army mounted the honor guard. At the VIP airport lounge, the head of government took stock of his tour in a statement to Odino Teya.

[Begin recording] [Diara] I have already taken stock of the tour I made at the airport. I would like to review the mission I had the honor of leading to some African countries in the company of the minister of cooperation and foreign affairs. You certainly heard on the air that wherever our delegation went, we were the object of fraternal, sincere and very warm welcomes not only from the governments of the friendly countries we visited, but especially from the Guinean communities we found in these countries. I assure you that we were very touched by certain scenes we witnessed at the airports. We are therefore extremely satisfied with the degree of accomplishment of our mission to the eight African countries we visited, where we met with understanding and, above all, with the identity of our views during talks on domestic, African and international issues. We have therefore returned to Guinea with the strong conviction that relations with these brotherly countries will only be intensified and the good cooperation will also be enhanced. I want to tell you, in a nutshell, that the delegation, which the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] mandated to visit these African countries, has returned full of hope for the radiant future awaiting our people and all these brotherly people. And now I would like to take the opportunity to convey our sincere thanks to all the countries we toured for their disposition, their warm and fraternal welcome, and above all for the special attention given to our delegation by the various heads of state.

[Teya] During the various meetings, you once again reaffirmed Guinea's desire to host the 20th OAU summit. What are your impressions on the various talks you had?

[Diara] Yes, we reaffirmed the holding of the 20th OAU summit in Conakry and we met with the understanding of all the heads of state with whom we held talks. Yesterday I think I heard from a radio broadcast that I was reported to have said that the Polisario was officially invited to attend the 20th summit. This is a statement which I flatly deny. I have never made any such statement. I have always said that our country would like to host the 20th summit in Conakry, first of all, as a founding member-country of this continental organization; and also, as a state we cannot run away from our responsibilities. I stated clearly that the 20th summit be held in Conakry and that with respect to the Polisario, Guinea conforms with the decision made at the 19th summit in Addis Ababa, the summit whose Resolution 104 well provided for elections in Western Sahara preceded first by a cease-fire and then a referendum. I do not know, but Guinea, a member of the OAU Implementation Committee on Western Sahara, cannot but support or accept this resolution, made unanimously by the heads of state.

As for statements that we have officially invited the Polisario, we never made any such statement anywhere; we have never made any such pronouncements about such a decision during the various interviews. I would therefore say, and I repeat, that the CMRN has made provisions for the holding of the 20th summit in Conakry in its program at a date which will certainly be fixed later. In other areas, say world issues, I repeat that there was real identity of viewpoints on all the world issues discussed with all the heads of states whom we met. I express my gratitude to these governments and people who received us well and who paid attention to our talks and we return from this first mission we made very much revived and very satisfied with the contacts made and very hopeful in the future relations between our people and all these various people.

[Teya] Before concluding, I would like to ask whether you already have another program of mission to other African countries?

[Diara] I cannot tell you this. The CMRN will hold a working session during which we will define modalities for a second round of the tour. I can therefore not specify this date to you. [end recording]

Agriculture Minister Receives DPRK Official

AB172031 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpt] This morning Major Alhouseyni Fofana, the minister of agriculture, received the vice president of the DPRK Agricultural Committee, Kim Chae-u. Kim Chae-u is supervising and directing the Agronomical Science Institute project at Kindia.

IVORY COAST

Angolan Envoy Brings Dos Santos Message

AB171630 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The president of the republic late this morning received in audience a special envoy of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, His Excellency Dombele Mbala Bernardo, Angolan ambassador to Gabon. He spoke to the press at the end of the audience.

[Begin recording] [Mbala Bernardo] I am grateful to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who has made it possible for me to be received today by one of Africa's wise men, President Houphouet-Boigny. I delivered a message from Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos to his Ivorian counterpart. We discussed the present situation in southern Africa, particularly the disengagement agreement which was signed between Angola and South Africa.

[Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency, until now all negotiations on the problem in southern Africa were in a diplomatic

deadlock. Today, can one hope that these problems will finally be solved through dialogue?

[Mbala Bernardo] I believe that on our part, that is People's Republic of Angola, we will respect the terms of the agreement that was signed on 16 February 1984. We think that this agreement will also help in the implementation of the UN Resolution 435/78. I believe that if the two parties can respect the agreement there will be peace in southern Africa, especially in Angola. [end recording]

LIBERIA

Doe Says U.S. Interfering in Internal Affairs

AB171953 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] In consultation with the People's Redemption Council, the Government of Liberia has decided to return to the United States $350,000 contributed toward the return to civilian rule. The head of state said this decision was made as a result of what he described as an interference in the internal affairs of Liberia by the United States. Dr Doe was referring to the summoning last week of Liberia's ambassador in Washington to question the government's decision to extend the constitutional timetable to 1986.

The head of state said that the government believes that the United States has attempted to impose pressure on us because of its contribution to the constitutional process. He has further directed that the minister of finance should no longer conclude negotiations for finances with donor countries, governments, and institutions that may impose conditions that may infringe upon the sovereignty of the state.

When contacted for his reaction, the American ambassador to Liberia, William Swing was not available, but the political officer said the embassy had no comment. Asked if it was true that the Americans summoned the Liberian ambassador to Washington, the embassy official could not confirm or deny the report.

It can be recalled that the head of state, Commander in Chief Samuel K. Doe said in his Redemption Day message that some of our traditional friends would threaten us with cutting off aid because of an extension of the timetable to civilian rule.

The head of state then considered it an unacceptable interference to question a fundamental decision affecting the lives and future of our people within the context of election year politics. He said government has no intention of restraining relations between Liberia and the United States, but said that Liberia has the right to make the decisions it feels are in the best interest of the nation and its citizens.

MALI

1 June Membership in West African Monetary Union

AB172155 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Mali will join the West African Monetary Union effective 1 June 1984. This was disclosed this afternoon by Oumar Coulibaly minister of state for economy and planning, at a general meeting of all the members of staff of his ministry. [passage indistinct]

Belgian Cooperation Official Arrives 17 April

AB172156 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] His Excellency Francois-Xavier de Donnea, the Belgian Kingdom's secretary of state for cooperation, and his wife, arrived in Bamako this afternoon from Dakar for a 6-day visit to our country. Mr De Donnea was welcomed at Senou International Airport of Bamajo by Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, and his wife, by the Belgian honorary consul to Mali, and various officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [passage indistinct]

NIGERIA

Buhari Receives ANC Delegation, Holds Talks

AB171906 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Nigeria has urged African countries not to compromise their collective commitment to the total liberation of the continent. The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, made the call today while receiving a delegation of the ANC at Dodan Barracks.

He emphasized the need for African countries to be committed to the struggle of independence for Namibia and the elimination of apartheid in South Africa. General Buhari said Nigeria welcomed any measure that will halt South African aggression in Mozambique and Angola, pointing out that the Federal Military Government understood the situation that led the two countries to sign an accord with the racist regime.

The head of state reiterated Nigeria's readiness to continue to give moral and material support to the nationalist forces of the ANC and SWAPO for the total liberation of their countries.

The leader of the delegation, the (?secretary) General of the ANC, Thomas Nkobi, delivered a message from the president of the congress, Oliver Tambo, to Maj Gen Buhari. Mr Tambo explained the position of the liberation movements in southern Africa as a result of the accord between some frontline states and the racist (?state).

Idiagbon Holds Talks With Bulgarian Envoy

AB171635 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Nigeria has told Bulgaria that her economic problem will soon be overcome. This was stated today at Dodan Barracks by Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon while exchanging views with the ambassador of the people's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr Dimitur Vulev. Brig Idiagbon expressed satisfaction at the cordial relations existing between Nigeria and Bulgaria and hoped that the ties would be strengthened fast in various areas of cooperation between the two countries. Commenting on the request of the Bulgarian prime minister to visit Nigeria, Brig Idiagbon said arrangements would be made by the appropriate quarters for his visit.

The Bulgarian ambassador had earlier told the chief of staff that his country was prepared to assist Nigeria in overcoming her present economic plight, particularly in the field of agriculture. He expressed the cooperation and support of the Bulgarian Government to the Federal Government in its efforts to revive the economy.

TOGO

Entente Council Approves 1983 Activities, Management

AB181045 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] A meeting of the Management Committee of the Entente Council's Mutual Aid and Loans Guarantee Fund took place yesterday in Lome. It was presided over by Raphael (Sosse), the leader of the Beninese delegation. It will be recalled that Benin is the current chairman of the Entente Council.

The final communique published at the end of the meeting states that the management committee examined the report on the Fund's activities and the balance sheet of the 1983 fiscal year submitted by the auditor. The committee approved the administrative secretary's financial management for the 1983 year. It also examined all the Fund's activities and expressed satisfaction with the positive results of the development actions undertaken.

The discussions took place in the atmosphere of fraternity and frank cooperation that has always characterized the meetings of the Entente Council.

The Beninese, Ivorian, Upper Voltan, and Niger delegations thanked His Excellency General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the republic, as well as the Togolese Government and people for the warm and brotherly reception accorded them in Lome.

The next nonbudgetary meeting of the Management Committee will take place in Ouagadougou, Upper Volta.

UPPER VOLTA

Former Officials Sentenced in Corruption Trial

AB171155 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 17 Apr 84

[text] The curtains have been drawn since Sunday evening over the seventh session of the People's Revolutionary Tribunal at Po. We bring you again the verdicts given at the end of the proceedings, presided over by Comrade Timothee Some.

[Begin Some recording] Gaston Imoukani, you are acquitted. You are free. Jean Modeste Ouedraogo, the tribunal has acquitted you. Edouard Seyni, the tribunal has acquitted you.

Jean-Baptiste Kawane Adama, you are sentenced to pay 1 million francs cfa damages, a 1 million franc fine, and your property will be confiscated to the tune of the amount you owe. Sit down.

Pierre Edmond, you are sentenced to 7 years imprisonment with order for your arrest at the conclusion of these proceedings, fined 5 million cfa, a 1 million cfa fine for damages, and the confiscation of all your property to the tune of the amount owed.

George Boni Moussa and Ouattara Guirisse, each of you is given a suspended prison sentence of 1 year, a fine of 1 million francs each, and 1 million francs damages to be paid jointly. You may sit down. Your property is confiscated to the tune of the amount you owe.

Sanougo Ibrahim, first, the tribunal sentences you to refund 2,433,190 francs; secondly, it sentences you to 150,000 francs damages and the confiscation of your property to the value of the amount you owe.

Francois Ouedraogo, the tribunal sentences you to a suspended prison term of 3 months 1 million cfa fine, the restitution of the equipment or to pay back its cost of 595,125 cfa and the confiscation of your property to the amount you owe. Sit down.

Michel Compaore, the tribunal gives you a suspended prison sentence of 1 year, the payment of 8 million francs damages, and the confiscation of your property to the value of the amount you owe. Sit down.

Augustin Tapsoba, the tribunal sentences you to a suspended 5-year term of imprisonment, 10 million francs damages. Sit down. Your property is confiscated to the tune of the amount you owe.

Minoungou Paul (Mesala), the tribunal gives you a suspended sentence of 7 years, 3,826,946 cfa damages and the confiscation of your property to the value of the amount you owe.

Erneste Ouedraogo Moussa, the tribunal sentences you to the payment of 2 million cfa fine, 1 million cfa damages, and the confiscation of your property to the value of the amount you owe. Sit down.

Felix Tiemtaraboum, the People's Revolutionary Tribunal gives you a suspended prison sentence of 3 years, a 5 million cfa fine, 3 million cfa damages, and the confiscation of your property to the tune of the a ount you owe.

Francois Daniel Gouda, the People's Revolutionary Tribunal gives you a suspended prison sentece of 3 years, a 2 million cfa fine, and a fine of 1 million cfa for damages and the confiscation of your property to the tune of the amount you owe. Kalgougou Moussa, the People's Revolutionary Tribunal gives you a suspended prison sentence of 3 years, a 2 million cfa fine, 12,029,054 cfa fine for damages, and the confiscation of your property to the tune of amount you owe.

Charles Nsouwo Oumara, the People's Revolutionary Tribunal gives you a suspended fine of 500,000 cfa and by special decision a 1 cfa fine for damages, and the confiscation of your property to the tune of the amount you owe. [as heard] Sit down.

I draw the attention of the accused persons to the fact that you have the possibility to appeal to the comrade president of the republic for clemency. Also I draw your attention to the fact that if you do not settle soon the amounts you have been charged to pay, you may be in for an unpleasant suprise. [end recording]

Sankara Greets Chernenko on Election

AB172215 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 17 Apr 84

[President Captain Thomas Sankara's message of congratulations sent to Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko on 17 April 1984 on his election to the Presidency of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium]

[Text] To His Excellency Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Moscow:

Excellency, on the occasion of your brilliant election to the head of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, I have the honor, on behalf of the revolutionary people of Upper Volta, their National Council of the Revolution [CNR], their government, and on my own behalf, to address to you our very active and militant congratulations. This mark of confidence accorded you is, I am sure, the guarantee for the exercise of popular power toward the ever-increasing development of your valiant fellow countrymen. I remain fully convinced that by putting their efforts together, our two peoples will contribute, in the name of the common destiny which binds them together, to the establishment of a just and prosperous world.

I pray that you, Excellency, will accept the ardent wishes of happiness and prosperity which I hereby address to you personally and for the continued progress of the brotherly people of the USSR.

Highest and militant considerations,

[Signed] Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR and the head of state of the Upper Volta

Communique on Algerian FLN Visit Issued

AB171745 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Joint communique issued at the end of the visit by a delegation of the Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN) to Upper Volta on 17 April 1984 in Ouagadougou — read by Abdelkader Cisse, charge de mission in the Office of the Minister of State Delegate to the Presidency]

[Excerpts] At the invitation of the National Council for the Revolution [CNR], an FLN delegation paid a friendly working visit to Upper Volta from 15 to 17 April 1984. The Algerian delegation, led by Abderrazak Bouhara, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee of the FLN and in charge of external relations, visited projects being constructed by the committees for the defense of the revolution [CDR's] and held fruitful talks with a CNR delegation headed by Comrade Lieutenant Laurant Sedogo, member of the CNR, political commissioner in charge of military CDR's. The talks were held in an atmosphere of fraternity and militant solidary and bore on relations between the FLN and the CNR, cooperation between the two countries, and the international situation, particularly in Africa.

Reviewing the international situation, the two delegations expressed their deep concern over the aggravation of the international situation, particularly in Africa and in the Middle East. To this end, the two delegations expressed their commitment to respect the principles expressed in the joint communique signed by the Algerian and Upper Voltan heads of state in Algeria on 3 April 1984. Concerning Africa, The FLN and the CNR condemned imperialism and its allies who have continued to carry out their criminal acts through increased pressures, interferences and all sorts of aggressions, in order to perpetuate their domination and their control over the resources of the African people, thus trying to block their desire for emancipation and progress.

Reviewing the situation in southern Africa, the two sides noted that it continued to be marked by the policy of hegemony of the racist Pretoria regime in the region. The FLN and the CRN condemned rigorously the colonial and racist South African regime which constitutes a permanent threat to peace and security in the region and the world. The two parties reaffirmed their unflinching support to the South African people in their struggle to recover their independence under the banner of the ANC. The FLN and the CNR condemned strongly the illegal occupation of Namibia by the racist Pretoria regime and denounced maneuvers aimed at delaying Namibia's independence and the refusal by that regime to implement Resolution 435 of the Security Council. They renewed their militant solidarity with the Namibian people in their struggle for liberation, under the leadership of their only and authentic representative — SWAPO. The two sides called on all African peoples, parties, and states to work toward achieving the total liberation of the African Continent — a fundamental aim of the OAU. The FLN and the CRN noted that the Chadian problem remains a factor of tension, causing concern to the African and international community. The two parties remained convinced that the solution to this fratricidal conflict is through the withdrawal of all foreign troops and the respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Chad. They called

on the brotherly Chadian people to search for a Chadian solution based on national reconciliation and unity.

The FLN and the CNR consider that the situation prevailing in northwest Africa represents a danger for peace and security in the region. They strongly deplore the policy of the Moroccan regime which persists in denying the people of Western Sahara their right to self-determination and independence, thus flouting Resolution 104 of the 19th OAU summit calling on the Moroccan Kingdom and the Polisario Front to to engage in direct negotiations. The two sides reiterate their unflinching support to the just struggle of the Western Sahara people to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and independence. The two sides reaffirm their determination to work toward strengthening the OAU — in particular on the eve of its 20th summit — a privileged instrument to achieve the objective of total and final liberation of the continent and for the struggle for economic and cultural development of the African people as well as for the establishment of a climate of peace, security and concord, through the respect of the principles and ideals contained in the OAU Charter.

Analyzing the situation in the Middle East, the FLN and the CNR reiterated their militant support to the Palestinian people in their right to self-determination, their right to return and build an independent state. They recalled that peace cannot be achieved in the region without the effective participation of the PLO, the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and without the evacuation of all the occupied territories, including Jerusalem. The two sides condemned the imperialist and Zionist maneuvers and aggressions aimed at partitioning Lebanon. They renewed firm support to the Lebanese people and to their nationalist and progressive forces in their struggle to preserve their national unity, sovereignty, integrity and the Arab-speaking culture of Lebanon.

The two sides expressed their grave concern over the dimension of the conflict between Iraq and Iran and which has been causing severe human losses to the two peoples. They urgently called for a halt in the hostilities and urged them to find a negotiated solution in the interest of the two countries. The FLN and the CNR reaffirmed their commitment to the Nonaligned Movement and support for its objectives of setting up a new world economic order, the democratization of international relations and the realization of people's aspirations for peace, freedom and progress.

At the end of the visit, a cooperation agreement for 1984 and 1985 was signed between the two sides. The Algerian delegation invited a CNR delegation to pay a visit to Algeria. This invitation was accepted and the date will be fixed later.

Issued in Ouagadougou on 17 April 1984.

[Signed] For the CNR: Lieutenant Laurant Sedogo, CNR member, political commissioner in charge of military NCDR's

For the FLN: Abderrazak Bouhara, member of the Permanent Secretatiat of Central Committee in charge of external relations

Interior Minister Makes Announcement on Land Use

AB172207 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Here is an important statement from the minister of interior and security:

It has come to my attention that comrades charged with the attribution of parcels of land in Zone No 17 at Piti are being threatened by impenitent reactionaries and other notorious counterrevolutionaries whose selfish interests have been definitely compromised since the advent of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and the establishment of the RDP [expansion unknown]. In this regard, I wish to remind you that special instructions have been given to forces charged with the maintenance of revolutionary order to use every means at their disposal, including firearms, in order to express the sovereignty of the people by crushing these class enemies who change their gowns to suit circumstances — yesterday officials of the National Union of African Teachers of Upper Volta, today traditional occupants as well as land speculators.

The fatherland or death, we will win! Ouagadougou, 17 April 1984

[Signed] The minister of interior and security, and chairman of the special commission for land distribution

ANGOLA

Castro, Dos Santos Praise Bravery at Sumbe

MB180922 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the Angolan head of state, and Commandant Fidel Castro, the first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party, have sent messages of praise to all Angolans and Cuban internationalists who bravely confronted the treacherous attack by UNITA lackeys in Sumbe on 25 March. In the messages, the supreme leaders of Angola and Cuba expressed their deepest recognition for the dedication, commitment, and courage which was demonstrated in the defense of the gains of the Angolan people. In the same context, a number of Cuban internationalists and Cuban fighters who distinguished themselves in defense actions have been awarded medals. Likewise, the Union of Young Communists of Cuba has conferred on them the Flag of Honor, the highest collective distinction given by that organization, which marked its 22nd anniversary on 4 April.

Yesterday, Colonel Dino Matross, minister of state security, dedicated a monument in Sumbe for those who died during the treacherous attack of 25 March. During the ceremony, which coincided with the anniversary of when the Cuban patriots achieved their greatest victory over imperialist forces in Giron, Colonel Dino Matross addressed the residents of Sumbe on behalf of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The minister of state security applauded the bravery and courage of those who stopped yet another aggression by UNITA. He exhorted the Angolan people to intensify vigilance, as the enemy will not stop its actions. The dedication of the monument was attended by Comrade Nvunda, head of the national political directorate of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola; Andre Pitra Petroff, secretary of the Central Committee for Production; Maria Mambo Cafe and Venancio de Moura; and the Soviet and Cuban ambassadors accredited to Angola.

Dos Santos Speaks at Closing of UNTA Congress

MB171909 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, received Romesh Chandra, the WPC chairman, in Luanda this morning. Romesh Chandra attended the first congress of the Angolan National Workers Union [UNTA]. At the closing session of this congress, he presented to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos the Ho Chi Minh Medal awarded to him by the WPC.

The first UNTA congress concluded its proceedings yesterday with the election of a new central council, which for the next 5 years will guide the destiny of the national workers movement. The UNTA congress, which has been held in Luanda since 11 April, ended with the adoption of important recommendations, including one on the need to include workers in the tasks of economic management and the solution of their problems through their active participation in implementing the guidelines and directives issued by higher authorities.

The august meeting of the UNTA analysed issues directly connected with improving the welfare of the workers, particularly the supply, distribution, and consumption of consumer goods, the marketing of agricutural produce, the literacy campaign, and cadre training, as well as medical assistance, violation of labor rights, and mass transportation. In its discussion of these subjects, the congress stressed the need for greater participation of workers in the solution of their problems as well as the systematic supervision of production units by competent authorities so as to exercise effective control over the production of each unit and to learn the problems of each one of them.

The closing session's high point was the presentation of the Ho Chi Minh Medal to Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola. The medal was presented by Romesh Chandra, the WPC chairman. Expressing the unanimous opinion of the 140 member countries of the council, he said that the award honored the effort of the Angolan people and their party and government in the struggle for ensuring peace and against the arms race.

During the closing session, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos was also awarded a National Labor Hero Medal for his selfless dedication in struggling to solve the most burning problems of the workers' social and economic life as well as his contribution to building a socialist nation in Angola. National Labor Hero Medals were also awarded to workers (Joao Batista Changalala) of the Otala agricultural complex, (Joao Changongo) of [word indistinct] of Benguela, and to (Bernardo Chimutu) of the Benguela Central Hospital. At the closing UNTA session, medals were also awarded to Comrade Pascual Luvualu and Cuban internationalists (Rene Salles) and (Dionizio Gonzales Nefo Antito). At the closing session of the congress, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, made a speech in which he stressed the growing need to increase production and productivity as the fundamental requirement for improving the workers' living standards.

Having stressed the guidelines on the future activity of the trade unions, the nation's supreme leader stated that the trade unions will have to work to consolidate their ideological tasks and will have to appoint workers who will actively participate in the tasks of managing the economy.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos also said that the trade unions will have to follow the directives of the workers union and those of the MPLA-Labor Party. He said that there could be no trade unions without party guidance, stressing that they must serve as a conveyor belt between workers and leaders, transmitting the difficulties of the grassroot bodies to the supreme leadership. Commenting on the current situation in southern Africa, the Angolan head of state stressed that vigilance should be redoubled as imperialism has not yet been disarmed, and it will at all cost deliver blows to our country. As such, we shall have to be ready in order to guarantee peace, freedom, and our territorial integrity. President Jose dos Santos also reaffirmed some leading principles of our foreign policy. He said that as long as the process

for Namibia's independence through the application of UN Resolution 435 has not begun, peace efforts will continue to be very relevant and our country will always call for applying Resolution 435, the cornerstone of Namibia's achievement of independence.

GDR Deputy Foreign Minister Leaves After Visit

MB171811 Luanda ANGOP in French 1330 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Luanda, 17 Apr, (ANGOP) — Gerd Koenig, the GDR foreign minister, left Luanda last night for Maputo after a 5-day visit to Angola. Before leaving Luanda, Gerd Koenig was received in audience yesterday by Juliao Mateus Paulo "DinoMatross," Angolan minister of state security. The talks between the two men centered on bilateral questions. During his stay in Luanda, the GDR delegation held talks with an Angolan delegation led by Venancio de Moura, Angolan deputy minister of foreign affairs. These talks ended last Friday with the signing of a protocol for the exchange of the instruments ratifying the judicial agreement signed in Berlin in 1981 by Paulo Jorge, Angolan foreign affairs minister, and Oskar Fischer, his GDR counterpart. Gerd Koenig was also received in audience by Lopo Do Nascimento, Angolan minister of planning, and by Bernardo de Sousa, minister of transport and communications. The document signed last Friday covers bilateral cooperation in the fields of civil rights, and penal, labor and family laws.

Planning Minister Cites Economy in Speech to UNTA

MB180742 Luanda ANGOP in French 1330 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Luanda, 17 Apr (ANGOP) — Lopo Do Nascimento, Angolan minister of planning, has declared that Angola, as a developing country, could not avoid the effects of the world economic crisis. Lopo Do Nascimento was speaking at the first national Congress of the Angolan National Workers Union [UNTA], which ended in Luanda last night. He blamed the economic crisis that is hitting Angola on the visible and invisible attacks by the South African racists. On the same theme, he questioned how many African countries could endure the destruction and damage provoked by these attacks on the economy of Angola. He made a review of the South African forays into Angola territory after 1981, which resulted in the occupation of part of the Angolan territory. He said this situation forced our fragile national economy to resort to large imports.

Lopo Do Nascimento then said that changes in the prices of raw materials on the international market had also affected the economic situation in the country. He said the average price of oil was $35 a barrel in 1983, but is now at $27. Diamonds, which then were priced at $156 per carat, are now $96 per carat. On the same issue, he said the budget deficit has increased from $3 to $10 million. With the help of UNTA and the enormous sacrifices of the Angolan people, the situation [passage indistinct] the MPLA-LABOR Party, Lopo Do Nascimento has stressed the importance [words indistinct] which constitutes a priority objective for the concentration of human, technical, and financial resources. He added that this year will be marked by the improvement of short- and medium-term programs, so that the bodies and enterprises concerned with their execution could understand the importance and level of their responsibilities. In conclusion, he reminded participants of the UNITA congress that the emergency plan, as it has been defined, determines that the national direction must rest on the defense and security organizations.

MPLA Judicial Secretary Meets PAICV Official

MB180623 Luanda ANGOP in French 1330 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Tect] Luanda, 17 Apr (ANGOP) —Henrique Santos, secretary of the MPLA Central Committee for state and judicial bodies, received at MPLA Party headquarters in Luanda yesterday Joaquim Pedro Silva, secretary for foreign affairs of the African Party for Independence of Cape Verde [PAICV]. We recall that Joaquim Pedro Silva has been in Luanda since Thursday leading an important delegation of the PAICV in the talks with the MPLA-Labor Party. The visit, which ends today, will be marked by the signing of an accord between the MPLA-Labor Party and the PAICV.

MPLA, PAICV Officials Sign Cooperation Agreement

MB180716 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The MPLA-Labor Party and the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde [PAICV] yesterday signed a cooperation agreement in Luanda. Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, secretary of the MPLA Central Committee for foreign relations, signed for Angola, while Joaquim Pedro Silva, the PAICV secretary for foreign relations, signed for Cape Verde. During their stay in the People's Republic of Angola, the Cape Verdian delegation held talks with a number of MPLA-Labor Party and government officials. The delegation leaves Angola today for the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.

LESOTHO

Opposition Members Walk Out of Assembly Debate

MB171919 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] All opposition members in the National Assembly this afternoon walked out during debates on the 1984 Electoral Amendment Bill protesting that all the amendments on the bill had been opposed by the government. The speaker, Mr J.T. Kolane, suspended the debate for 15 minutes to give himself time to decide whether or not to suspend the debates on the bill. On return, he ruled that the debates should go ahead because there was no reason to suspend the business of the house when the opposition did not want to take part. The speaker said the opposition did not follow the normal parliamentary procedure when introducing the amendments, stressing that neither the prime minister nor the government side is out to overrule the amendments on bills.

MADAGASCAR

Figures on Cyclone Kamisy Damage Released

MB171639 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Excerpt] According to figures received by the National Relief Committee yesterday afternoon, 30 people have been killed and 41 are missing in the Mahajanga I area following Cyclone Kamisy. A total of 8 people have been killed in (?Marovoay), 22 in the Antseranana II area and 4 are missing in Antalah. These figures are always susceptible to change since searches and investigations are still being carried out. There are no definite figures with regard to Mahajanga as a whole because a number of places are still cut off following the destruction of roads and bridges.

The following is the assessment of the situation as presented by the president of the Executive Committee of the Mahajanga constituency to the National Relief Committee. In Mahajanga, a total of 2,460 administrative offices valued at 123 billion Malagasy francs were destroyed. The cyclone also destroyed 3,250 private buildings. A total of 450 hospitals were partially or totally destroyed. It also partially or totally destroyed 1,270 schools and education institutions, valued at 12.7 billion Malagasy francs. It costs 10 million Malagasy francs to build one school. The cost of factory equipment and material destroyed totaled 130 billion francs. The ports of Mahajanga and (?Marovoay) and others suffered damage estimated at 15.6 billion Malagasy francs. The buildings housing the People's Army and the police force have suffered damage valued at 461.8 million Malagasy francs.

MALAWI

Gabon Deputy Prime Minister Leaves for Mozambique

MB171923 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] A special envoy of the Gabonese president, Omar Bongo, left Malawi today for Mozambique after delivering a special message to his excellency the life president, Ngwazi Kamuzu Banda. The envoy, Mr Emile Kassa-Mapsi, who is Gabon's deputy prime minister, said the visit to several African capitals is aimed at getting views from the leaders on various problems facing Africa before the OAU summit takes place in Conakry, Guinea, later this year. Mr Kassa-Mapsi, who has already visited Cameroon and Mauritius, will also visit Swaziland.

MOZAMBIQUE

GDR Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives, Holds Talks

MB171323 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Delegations from the People's Republic of Mozambique and the GDR, headed by their respective deputy ministers of foreign affairs, held talks in Maputo today in order to assess the advances already made in bilateral cooperation and to exchange views on the international situation. The talks were held during the visit by Gerd Koenig, GDR deputy minister of foreign affairs, to Mozambique. Gerd Koenig arrived in our country yesterday. His Mozambican counterpart, Daniel Mbanze, stated on his arrival that the visit reflects the growing friendship and solidarity between the two countries and the mutual desire to deepen relations. In turn, Koenig, who is visiting Africa for the first time, said that the economic, political, and social ties between the two countries have been successfully developing within the framework of the friendship and cooperation treaty already signed.

NAMIBIA

Special Police Squad Sent to Oshakati

MB171749 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] A special police squad has been sent to Oshakati, where the explosion took place. The commander of the South-West Africa Territory Force, Major General George Meiring, has said that the Army and the police are conducting joint investigations into the explosion. In Washington, a State Deaprtment spokesman, Mr John Hughes, has praised the two diplomats as having served in the highest tradition of American dedication to the cause of peace. He said United States diplomacy in the region would be undeterred. At least one additional United States diplomat has been sent to Windhoek in the wake of the attack.

SOUTH AFRICA

U.S. Ambassador To Accompany Bodies of Envoys

MB171655 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The American ambassador to South Africa, Mr Herman Nickel, says he will report back to the American Government in Washington this week on the bomb attack at Oshakati in which two American diplomats died. A memorial service for the two diplomats, Mr Dennis Keogh and Lieutenant Colonel Ken Crabtree, in St Alban's Cathedral in Pretoria was attended by about 300 people this afternoon. Among those who attended were several South African and foreign diplomats, senior officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs, military attaches, and members of the public. The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and the director general of his department, Mr Hans van Dalsen, and other senior officials will attend a memorial service for the two American bomb victims in Cape Town tommorrow. The service will be held in St Mary's Cathedral at 1100 tomorrow morning.

Shortly before the service in Pretoria, the American ambassador confirmed to the South African Broadcasting Corporation that he would be accompanying the bodies of two Americans on a flight to Washington. The aircraft is due to leave Jan Smuts Airport at 2000 tonight. Mr Nickel said he had the highest regard for the two diplomats and that Mr Keogh, who had been head of the American Liaison office in Windhoek, in particular

had been intensively involved in the peace initiative in South-West Africa. Mr Nickel said early investigations indicated that the two Americans had been not the targets of the bombers and that it had been pure conicidence that they had been at the filling station when the bomb had exploded.

Botha Denies Approaching Mugabe on Peace Pact

MB180908 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 18 Apr 84 p 3

[By political correspondent]

[Text] Cape Town — The South African Government had not approached Zimbabwe with a view to concluding a nonaggression pact, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said yesterday. Mr Botha was commenting in Cape Town on reports from Harare that Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe had disclosed in a television interview this week that the RSA Government had asked for talks at ministerial level aimed at probing the possibility of a peace pact. Mr Mugabe said in the interview he did not consider it necessary to have a peace pact with South Africa. Mr Botha said yesterday the Zimbabwe Government's repeated public stand was that it was not prepared to allow its territory to be used for acts of aggression or the planning of aggression against its neighbours — including South Africa. There was therefore no need for a formal nonaggression treaty and the South African Government had not approached Mr Mugabe's government with this in mind, Mr Botha said.

Sentences Passed in Ciskei Terrorism Trial

MB172022 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Sentences had been passed in Ciskei's marathon terrorism trial. Three of the accused will be sent to jail for 3 years, while the fourth will serve in excess of 3 and 1/2 years. The accused are William Duna, Dumisani Maninjwa, Kayi Seyi, and Luwanda Mayekiso, all of Mdantsane Township. Each received a total of 12 years inprisonment, but parts of the sentence are to run concurrently, and some of the sentence has been suspended. Maninjwa is to serve a further 6 months for taking part in ANC activities. All four were found guilty of participating in so-called terroristic activities and for belongining to the ANC. The judge, Justice De Wet, refused a defense application for leave to appeal and instructing attorney Hinsa Dumisa said the defense would petition the South African chief justice for leave to appeal.

Goal of 'Confederal Arrangement,' Internal Reforms Urged

MB171710 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Station commentary: "The Realities of South Africa"]

[Text] One of the most important aspects of recent developments in southern Africa is the realization that the violent overthrow of South Africa by the terrorist organization, the ANC, is not a proposition. The only thing which made this a vague possibility in the past was the provision of bases in neighboring states from which the ANC could launch its terrorist attacks. The recent accords, particularly those signed between South Africa and Mozambique and Swaziland, have rendered the ANC virtually powerless, except for sporadic actions born of desperation. It can be expected that these will continue in the short-term, but the new pattern of relations between South Africa and its neighbors is based first and foremost on the removal of all bases and facilities which make it possible for ANC terrorists to operate. In other words, the peace initiatives in the region flow from acceptance of the fact that violence is not an alternative and has to be cleared from the table in order to facilitate normal, neighborly relations between the governments of the subcontinent.

At the same time, the removal of the outside threat can only benefit South Africa's internal reform processes, processes which are real, dynamic, and aimed at advancing the constitutional potential of all the people of the country. The response to this challenge must necessarily be as complex and multifaceted as is the population mix with which it has to deal. With the country's whites, coloreds, Asians, and 10 black nations, there can be no question of the Westminister political model of one man, one vote in a unitary system. It has failed wherever it has been implemented in Africa's divided societies.

South Africa's course is based on three unalterable realities: first, the fact that South Africa's population comprises widely diverse minorities; second, not one of its communities consitutes a majority; and third, following from these two, is that political rights must be expressed in a framework that is based on the principles of community security and joint responsibility. South Africa is building on these realities and is progressing steadily in expanding the freedoms and safeguarding the rights of all its peoples. Some form of confederal arrangement is the ultimate goal. South Africa will not be deflected from achieving this by revolutionary elements bent on enforcing a political system which has failed in every other multinational African state.

Nkomati Accord Called 'Severe Blow' to ANC

MB171719 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Don Eksteen commentary: "Some of the Results of Nkomati"]

[Text] The remark by the prominent American banker, David Rockerfeller, that the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique had created extreme confidence in the region is an indication of the favorable effects of the historic occasion. Influential political commentators have pointed out that the agreement between Mozambique and South Africa would have world-wide repercussions, that Mozambique and South Africa would reap direct benefits, and that the agreement would result in investment confidence in both countries, and as result the whole subcontinent would benefit.

An obvious favorable result has been the invitation to the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, to visit several Western European countries. With the signing of the Nkomati Accord,

South Africa has achieved a new image in the international community, and this is not limited to the political community, but also to the international trading environment. But one most important aspect of the Nkomati Accord has been the effects on the ANC terrorist organization. Foreign correspondents have pointed out that very few ANC members will be allowed to remain in Mozambique with the signing of the accord. In Swaziland, members of the organization who have infiltrated the country from Mozambique have been mercilessly hunted down by the police. But an aspect of even more importance is illustrated by a report received today that the ANC leader, Oliver Tambo, is traveling from one frontline state to another to arrange a summit meeting. On the agenda will be ways and means of strengthening the ANC's logistical problems after Nkomati. According to the ANC, the Nkomati Accord has been a severe blow to the organization.

SWAZILAND

Gabon Official Brings Message to Queen Regent

MB180923 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 18 Apr 84 pp 1,6

[By *OBSERVER* reporter]

[Text] The vice prime minister of Gabon, Mr Emile Kassa-Mapsi, arrived at Matsapha Airport yesterday afternoon to deliver a special message to the Queen Regent Ntombi from his president. "We had a very tight itinerary, that is why we could not come as planned. We were caught up by sudden events in Cameroon and that is why we could not leave and come to Swaziland," he explained. The Gabon delegation was expected in the country last week. He added that he hoped to meet other government officials, like the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Richard Dlamini. "It is my first time to be in Swaziland and I am happy to be here, but it is unfortunate that my visit is a short one. I hope to visit other countries like Mozambique, Lesotho, and Botswana before going back to my country," said the vice prime minister. He is accompanied by the president's advisor for political and diplomatic affairs, Mr Paul Okumba d'Okwatsegue, Mr Louis Maganga, cabinet attache to the vice prime minister, and Yolande Bike, a translator. The vice prime minister is expected to leave the country today.

Police Ask Public To Report 'Bizarre Strangers'

MB171628 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The Royal Swaziland Police have appealed to members of the public to report strangers who are not resident in the Kingdom, especially transient males without wives and children. The police warning follows a similar warning which was made by the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, yesterday, in which he appealed to the entire Swazi nation to report to police officers whenever armed strangers surface. The Royal Swaziland Police in their warning invite the Swazi nation to inform them of people who only make visits to certain houses at night, those houses in which occupants keep on changing very often, and bizarre strangers who hang around the back streets and unlit corners.

Refugee Official Condemns Killing of Officer

MB180854 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The resident representative of the UN High Commission for Refugees, Mr Emmanuel Owusu, has bitterly condemned the cold-blooded murder of a Swazi police officer by armed illegal immigrants and the wounding of four other police officers and a soldier. Mr Owusu said it was a pity that the current assault on members of the country's police and Army units was making life difficult for genuine refugees. He said that even if those perpetrating such attacks had at one time or another registered as refugees, they disqualified themselves as such by taking up arms against the host government.

Meanwhile, the condition of the Army man, Ben Sihlongonyane, who was admitted to the Good Shepherd Hospital in Siteki yesterday, was today described as satisfactory. Mr Sihlongonyane suffered a broken arm and deep wounds to his legs and other parts of his body when he was hit by shrapnel from a hand grenade that exploded as an ANC man tried to toss it at him at Tikhuba in the Lubombo area yesterday during an Army search there.

On the other hand, the condition of Assistant Superintendent Alton Dlamini, who was flown to Johannesburg's Princess Nursing Home in Hilbrow yesterday, was not immediately clear. But a spokesman of the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital in Manzini, who was in contact with the doctors treating him before his departure, said Mr Dlamini was in surprisingly good shape when he left yesterday. He said he was amazed that the badly injured man, who was shot through the eye and suffered brain damage, could speak fluently, was aware of his surroundings, and recognized his family. He said at the time of his departure Mr Dlamini had not suffered any paralysis as a result of the injury to his brain. In another development, the prime minister last night appealed to the nation to report any suspicious foreigners to the nearest police or Army station. Prince Bhekimpi, who also condemned the current violence against the Kingdom's forces, expressed the hope that the government would not be pushed so far as to resort to drastic and possibly violent reaction to the unprovoked attacks.

ZAMBIA

USSR Grants Country 75 Science Scholarships

MB171949 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] National commission for development planning minister, Dr Henry Meebelo, has said Zambia is bound to benefit from a new cultural and scientific program with the Soviet Union, and it will be able to get specialized services for its schools. Dr Meebelo said this when he signed an agreement for a scientific and cultural program between Zambia and the Soviet Union for 1984 at a meeting for development planning. Soviet ambassador to Zambia, Comrade (Ladornia), signed on behalf of his country. Dr Meebelo said Zambia placed great emphasis on the development of science as an area in which very little has been done. adding that this course will be a realization that modern socio-economic development called for science and technology. Com-

rade (Ladornia) said the Soviet Union will [words indistinct] Zambia with 75 science scholarships through the same agreement and that it was up to the Zambian Government to select the best students in order to benefit. The agreement signed today was the eighth since the two countries started cooperating in the cultural field 15 years ago.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Warns Journalists of 'Tough Action'

MB171150 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has warned foreign journalists that the government will now take tough action against them if they continue to misrepresent events in Zimbabwe overseas.

Addressing a news conference in Harare yesterday, Comrade Mugabe said foreign journalists are conducting a campaign to discredit Zimbabwe with the full knowledge that what they portray is false.

He said the government has been very tolerant so far, and that the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, has been told that Zimbabwe cannot tolerate such actions anymore. Comrade Mugabe said the country will continue to make progress in unity and will use any means at its disposal in order to survive as a nation.

Mugabe Asks Rejection of Regionalism, Tribalism

MB172007 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 17 Apr 84

[Text] Zimbabweans have been called upon to rid themselves of all vestiges of regionalism and tribalism as they move into the country's 5th year of independence. The call was made by the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, at the National Sports Stadium in Harare today during a reception he hosted for residents and diplomats.

The prime minister said people who practice regionalism or tribalism have narrow and primitive views of national independence, adding that there must be no recognition of ethnic differences among Zimbabweans except for cultural purposes only.

Comrade Mugabe said 4 years after independence, despite problems within the mining and manufacturing sectors, Zimbabwe can be proud that it has achieved successes in resettlement and in the educational program. He reiterated his condemnation of banditry and at the same time asked pressmen to make an objective analysis of events in Matabeleland.

He called on all Zimbabweans to work hard in their respective responsibilities to achieve even bettter results in the country's sixth year of independence. Tomorrow, both the president and the prime minister are expected to attend independence celebrations at Rufaro Stadium in Harare beginning at 0830.

Mugabe Addresses Nation on Independence Eve

MB180830 Harare Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 18 Apr 84

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says Zimbabwe has defied (?the world) and has proved wrong the prophets of doom despite the problems it faced during the past year. In his address to the nation on the eve of Zimbabwe's fourth anniversary of independence last night, Comrade Mugabe said the standard of living in the country has risen despite inflation. The prime minister said the country will not starve and its economy will not collapse. He said security will remain sustained. He also said Zimbabwe's social services are without comparison in developing countries and the morale of the nation remains exceedingly high. Comrade Mugabe says the end of the fourth year of the country's independence has brought the government into its fifth year, with all its political and constitutional requirements. The prime minister said the government fills the needs in national reconciliation and the policy of national unity, but added that although some parties have accepted this, others have failed to reciprocate.

Tambo Warns of 'Final Onslaught' Against RSA

MB171014 Harare THE HERALD in English
5 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] (ZIANA) The African National Congress has deployed more guerillas in South Africa since the signing of a non-aggression pact between Mozambique and the Pretoria regime, its president, Cde Oliver Tambo, said yesterday. He said in an interview shortly before leaving Harare for Botswana that as a result the liberation struggle in South Africa was going to be at "its highest peak" because "things are going to be worse within the next 3 months. We have made adjustments to our struggle since the recent peace accord, and deployed more freedom fighters within South Africa to launch the final onslaught against the enemy." Cde Tambo would not say whether his organisation was responsible for the Durban bomb explosion which killed three people on Tuesday. Fighting morale in South Africa was now "very high" among the local black population and he warned the Pretoria regime to brace itself for a final "bloody war." The ANC leader has just ended a 4-day visit to Zimbabwe during which he held talks with various government officials.

He also appealed to ANC members who were not working for the party office in Mozambique to surrender to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees or leave the country immediately. The ANC leader appealed to supporters to be "sympathetic" to the situation Mozambique found itself in, and refrain from acting in a manner that was likely to violate the Nkomati Accord.

Tambo Denies Comments in ZIANA Interview

MB171023 Harare THE HERALD in English
6 Apr 84 p 4

[Text] (ZIANA) Cde Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress of South Africa, yesterday challenged the accuracy of a ZIANA report of an interview with him which was

transmitted yesterday. In a verbal statement issued in his hotel room shortly before he left for Lusaka, Cde Tambo denied he had said in the report that the struggle being waged by the ANC against the South African Government would be at its "highest peak" following the infiltration of more guerillas into that country after the signing of the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique. He said the phrase "its highest peak" had "no meaning in relation to the struggle in South Africa." He also denied he had said "things are going to be worse within the next 3 months." Nor was it correct to say, as ZIANA quoted him, that guerillas had been deployed within South Africa "to launch a final onslaught." "We are involved in a protracted struggle," he said.

He also denied that in the interview he had warned the South African Government to brace itself for "bloody war." He said he had "never used that phrase in my life." Neither had he appealed to ANC members in Maputo to surrender themselves to the UN High Commission for Refugees there. "I made no appeal to ANC members about anything," he said. However, he said that ANC members would leave the country if they were required to. The ANC was also not "sympathetic" to Mozambique, as the ZIANA report said. "I don't think Mozambique needs our pity. It knows what it is doing," he said.

PAC Leader Discusses Plans on 25th Anniversary

MB171205 Harare THE HERALD in English 6 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] The Pan Africanist Congress of Azania is determined to meet South Africa's "hysterical brutality" with calm, iron, and determination until final victory, PAC Chairman Cde John Nyati Pokela has said. In a statement in Harare to mark his organisation's 25th anniversary today, Cde Pokela said there was plenty of suffering ahead and the oppressor would not take this lying down. "But we are ready. We will not go back. As the heat of oppression mounts, we shall become purer and purer, leaving all the dross of racialism and similar evils behind, to emerge as a people mentally and physically disciplined. The pacts that are being forced on some frontline and neighbouring states cannot determine the course of the Azanian revolution. For 40 years our people tried all non-violent methods of struggle, but all such methods falled to change the inhuman policies of apartheid," said Cde Pokela.

Whites, on their own accord, could not bring about fundamental changes in Azania. Apartheid in South Africa was the hub in the "super-exploitation" of the Africans. Only the PAC and the Azanian Africans had the will and the capacity to bring about fundamental changes.

The alien whites in South Africa were an occupation army, Cde Pokela said. The Azanian People's Liberation Army led by the PAC had the will and capacity to wrest power from the alien ruler. Started in the sixties, the PAC was strong and virile until the mid-1970s. In the late 1970s, the organisation went into a trough of temporary stagnation. "But we are now once more riding high and have grasped the dove of success fully in both our hands. We are systematically and vigorously executing our multi-frontal programme which is daily unfolding before our own eyes. With the full and unquestionable participation of the Azanian masses, we shall relentlessly advance forward, fully convinced that the participation of the massses in our people's war is the only decisive factor that determines the pace, content, and success of our revolution.

"In the last 3 years, the PAC leadership has seriously addressed itself to the task of re-organisation and re-orientation, and important auxiliary structures like the unity and women's co-ordinating committees and the Bureau of Research were created. In the pipeline is the youth secretariat decided upon at the Bagamoyo plenary session in July last year, said Cde Pokela. Since 1960, the PAC has encountered a number of setbacks like the death of Cde George Siwisa in 1960; the execution and murder of more than 124 PAC activists by the racist regime between 1960 and 1980s; and the party had the longest-serving political prisoners in South Africa. More than 5,000 PAC activists had also gone through the regime's prisons.